

# The BULLETIN

OF THE  
MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY



HOODED MERGANSERS

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

VOLUME XXXV

MARCH, 1951

Number 3

# MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1896 INCORPORATED 1914

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# BULLETIN

OF THE

## MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Publication Office: 380 North Avenue, North Abington, Mass.

Editorial Office: 155 Newbury Street, Boston 16, Mass.

All correspondence and changes of address should be directed to 155 Newbury St., Boston.

***Issued monthly, except July, August, and September***

Entered as Second Class Matter, October 21, 1946, at the Post Office at North Abington, Mass., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Bulletin subscription \$2.00 per annum, included in all Membership fees;

Records of New England Birds, \$2.00 per annum.

Single copies of either, 25 cents.

The Bulletin may also be obtained in Microfilm

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## The President's Page



Already contributions are being received from friends of the late Thomas Emerson Proctor who feel that the preservation of the heart of his beautiful domain in Topsfield is much in the public interest.

One such well-wisher has written me:

"Your note in the February *Bulletin* of the Massachusetts Audubon Society about 'Peter' Proctor's estate offers a great opportunity to those of us who knew and admired 'Peter's' quiet devotion to his property in Topsfield."

Another writes:

"I was so glad to hear from your letter that the Audubon Society was going to buy dear old Emerson's place in Topsfield. I am enclosing a small check so I may feel I am sharing a little bit in this lovely and interesting enterprise. How happy it would make Emerson feel to know his precious birds, trees, flowers, deer and everything he loved on the place will be protected and cared for so carefully by your Society. It seems a perfect plan."

May this flow continue and swell, for only thus shall we be able to develop the possibilities of this purchase from which the public will so greatly profit.

Robert Walcott



## Audubon In Kentucky

BY ETHEL OATES SHELTON

*Curator, Audubon Memorial Museum, Henderson, Kentucky*



Some of the Exhibits in the Audubon Memorial Museum at Henderson, Kentucky.

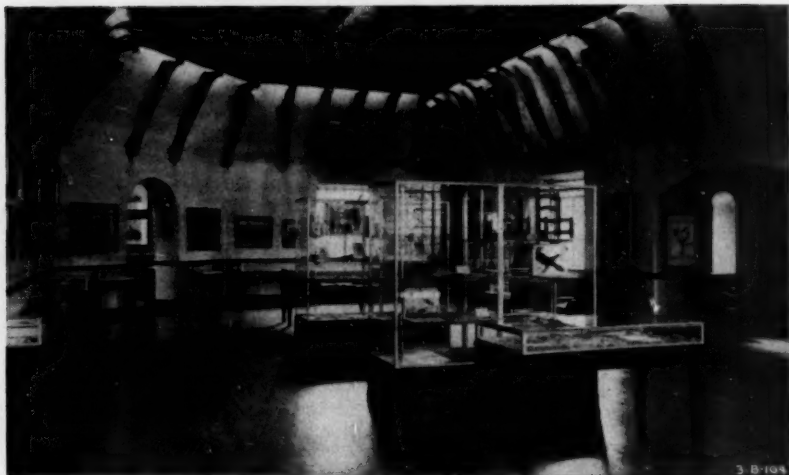
In the summer of 1807 two ambitious young Frenchmen set out from Pennsylvania to try their fortunes in the West, which then meant the Ohio River Valley. They were John James Audubon and Ferdinand Rozier, who had chosen Louisville, Kentucky, as a vantage point from which to launch their mercantile career. Rozier was quiet, canny, and businesslike. Audubon was gay, young, and handsome, his only ambition at the time being to make money enough to return to Pennsylvania for his sweetheart, Lucy Bakewell.

On the long tiresome trip down river from Pittsburgh, Audubon whiled away many of his daylight hours drawing and painting birds which he killed along the way when the crude, unwieldy flatboat on which they were traveling "tied up" so that the men might hunt game (which was plentiful) for food.

The partners reached Louisville and established their small store in September, 1807. They lost quite a large sum of money in indigo, for at this time the Embargo Act had taken effect, cutting off all exports to Europe and paralyzing American trade. Audubon, with his characteristic optimism, paid little attention to the firm's financial crisis, however, and went back to Pennsylvania for his bride.

The young people were married on April 5, 1808, and another long trip down the Ohio was undertaken by Audubon, this time with Lucy, who was to remain his most enthusiastic supporter throughout his life, having faith in him when all others failed him.

The life in Louisville was a very happy one for a time. Audubon spent long days in the woods or on the river with his gun and drawing board. His



The Main Gallery, Audubon Memorial Museum, Henderson, Kentucky.

portfolio was soon filled with paintings. He made long trips on horseback to Philadelphia, buying for the store, and the return trips down the Ohio gave him opportunity to study bird and animal life of every kind and were of value to him in the years to come. Both Audubon and Lucy were very popular with the well-to-do people of Louisville and made many firm and lasting friends there, while Rozier spent most of his time behind the counter in the store.

While living in Louisville, Audubon met one man whose friends and supporters were later to give him a great deal of trouble. Alexander Wilson, the Scottish weaver, poet, and school teacher, the first naturalist to have his work published in America, came to Louisville to get subscriptions for his books. What a surprise each man must have been to the other! When Wilson came to the store and showed his book to Audubon, and Audubon in his genial way showed Wilson his drawings, which were so much better that it seemed to embitter Wilson, the latter inquired if Audubon expected to publish his work. Audubon had no thought of doing so then, but later, when his *Birds of America* was being published, Wilson's publisher and biographer sought to discredit him and to hamper his work as a naturalist in every way he could. Wilson and Audubon each claimed that the other had appropriated some of his work without making proper recognition. There was glory enough for both—for Wilson with his clear and accurate subject matter and for Audubon with his superb paintings—but even after Wilson's death the quarrel was carried down the years by his publisher, George Ord.

By 1810 the business in Louisville was so near failure that Audubon and Rozier decided to move their store by flatboat down the Ohio to Henderson, which, to their surprise, they found to be only a small village at that time. However, they continued their partnership there for six months and then went on to Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, where Audubon sold his interest in the boatload of goods to Rozier, who remained to make his fortune while Audubon went on to fame — but that came many years later.



Holloway House, Henderson County, Kentucky,  
where Audubon painted Plate 1, the "Great American Cock," or Wild Turkey.

Audubon came back from Ste. Genevieve to Henderson, established a store of his own, and for a while business went so well that he bought a home and began trading in real estate. Deeds and other papers in the Court files show that he was fairly successful in these ventures. He kept out of financial trouble until he went into partnership with his brother-in-law, Thomas Bakewell, to build a steam lumber and grist mill in Henderson. Of all his follies, this was the greatest. Steam was in its infancy, the owners were inexperienced, and the country was too sparsely settled to support an enterprise of such magnitude. Naturally it failed, and with it went everything Audubon owned except his gun and his precious portfolio of paintings.

Audubon had done much of his best painting while in Henderson, and many of the birds and animals which later appeared in his publications he had found in the forests of Kentucky and on her waterways.

His most famous painting, "The Great American Cock," or Wild Turkey, was probably painted in Henderson. The old Holloway house, built in 1800, where Audubon painted the turkey, is still standing. He made frequent stays at the Holloway home and came from hunting one day with a fine wild turkey he had killed. He pronounced it the finest specimen he had ever seen but wondered at the band of red flannel sewn round its leg and feared he had killed someone's tame turkey. Mrs. Holloway told him it was a wild bird that sometimes joined her tame flock, and that she had caught it and sewn the band on its leg hoping it would be seen and thus provide escape from some hunter's gun. It was just the fine type of bird Audubon wanted to paint, and the daughter of the house, Rebecca, held the bird in position while he sketched and painted it. It was later retouched for his "elephant folio." Mrs. Julia Clore, of Henderson, remembers well her great aunt, Rebecca Holloway, from whom she often heard the story of the painting of the Wild Turkey Cock.

Audubon's art included portraiture. Many of his splendid portraits were done in Kentucky, among them, and possibly the most notable, being that of Daniel Boone (Audubon met Boone in Kentucky), now hanging in the Third Gallery of the Audubon Memorial Museum.

Though Audubon had lost everything he possessed through his years of misfortune in Henderson, except his Lucy, his two sons, and his gun and his paintings, he had found himself. He had discovered that he could not succeed in business when his interest lay wholly in the painting and observation of wild life. He arrived at the conclusion that he must paint his birds, paint them life-size, and at some time and in some way publish them, and Lucy, strong character that she was, aided him in every way she possibly could, assuming the support of the family and leaving him free to devote his time to painting. Without her self-sacrificing devotion the world would never have known Audubon.

The family returned to Louisville and later went to Cincinnati, where Audubon was engaged as a taxidermist in a museum for nearly a year (1820-1821). The next five years were spent in the South, then in 1826 he went to England and Scotland — more hard years — and on to fame.

Because of Audubon's years in Henderson and the interest there in his life and work, the people of the town induced the State of Kentucky to create Audubon State Park, a reservation three miles north of Henderson on National Highway 41. The park embraces a wooded area of some five hundred acres, contains two lakes for boating and fishing, and has many fine picnic sites, as well as a number of cabins for week-end visitors. It is considered one of Kentucky's most beautiful parks. Its crowning feature, and the reason for its existence, is the beautiful gray stone building, the John James Audubon Memorial Museum, erected in 1938 to the memory of the great naturalist. Of French architecture, it rises from a low elevation near the center of the park like a lovely old chateau, a fitting memorial to the young Frenchman who came to this country in 1803 and by his ability and determination surmounted all obstacles to become America's most famous artist-naturalist.

Audubon State Park is situated in what is called the "Wolf Hills" section, near Green River where it joins the Ohio. During his years in Henderson, Audubon spent much time in this area with his gun and drawing materials. It was here that he saw the great mass migration of the Passenger Pigeons in such numbers that their wings darkened the sky. The park is near the confluence of three great natural flyways of North American birds in their migration north and south, and consequently many naturalists visit the spot for bird study.

The Memorial Museum contains collections of heirlooms owned by the descendants of the Audubon family still left in America. There are paintings by Audubon and his two sons, Victor and John Woodhouse (Victor born in Louisville, John W. in Henderson); many of the fine Audubon prints; books; personal jewelry of Lucy and John J. Audubon; letters; and pictures of his home in France, where he began his career, and of "Minnie's Land" in New York City on the Hudson, where his days ended. Countless other belongings give glimpses of the home life of the Audubon family over a period of years.

To visit the park and museum is to get a better understanding of the scope and value of the work of John James Audubon and to appreciate as never before his deep love for America and his desire to protect and preserve her wild life. This influence has been one of the greatest factors in conservation through the one hundred years since his death in 1851.

## Broadening Horizons

ANNUAL REPORT OF C. RUSSELL MASON

*Executive Director, Massachusetts Audubon Society*

Read at the Annual Meeting, January 27, 1951.

Last year at the Annual Meeting the members of the Society were presented a summary of accomplishments during the preceding ten years. This year, therefore, we are acquainting you with what has happened during the first year of a new decade. Those of you who read the *Bulletin* regularly will find much of this old news, but it seems well, in any case, to summarize the progress made during the past year in order to plan more effectively for the year ahead.

Throughout 1950 our CONSERVATION EDUCATION program continued to develop in all its phases. That this program has attracted attention beyond the borders of Massachusetts is demonstrated by the fact that the Florida Audubon Society sent its Executive Director last May and June to study our methods in the schools and at the Workshop, and this has resulted in the introduction of a similar school program in three cities of central Florida. New Jersey is planning to do likewise. We have been asked to cross State lines to carry our school work into neighboring territory, and just this week we received the guarantee of a garden club for the financing of a school class just across the border in Rhode Island. We are at the present time working in eighty towns and cities of Massachusetts, our seventeen teachers reaching ten thousand boys and girls on a weekly or biweekly basis from October to June.

While referring to our school program, I might add that one of the problems being discussed by writers of much of our current literature on conservation matters is the difficulty of getting any sort of conservation teaching into an already crowded school curriculum. This we have already accomplished in Massachusetts through the fine reception given the Audubon course in Conservation and Natural Science by school authorities all over the State. Conservationists and educators today agree that the two outstanding needs in conservation education are, first, the instruction of grade school children, and, secondly, the instruction of teachers and other leaders in conservation workshops. Both of these needs your Society is meeting as far as its staff and finances will permit.

It may be that some of our members are not aware that Audubon teachers are presenting more than a program of nature lore in their classes. Ours is a broad program covering, so far as possible in the time allotted, the conservation of replaceable natural resources and the ecology of all living things, and how these are related to the everyday lives of the boys and girls. Correlated with the work in the schools are the five Natural History Day Camps for children which we operated last summer at four of our Audubon sanctuaries and at Palmer State Park in Topsfield. Increasing interest in the Day Camps is shown by a capacity enrollment at Moose Hill, the first of these camps to be established. Last summer, acting upon the suggestion of several of our members, we opened a resident Natural History Camp for boys and girls at Cook's Canyon in Barre, and this also we expect to continue next season if registrations warrant it.

The enrollment at the Summer Workshop at Cook's Canyon for the 1950 season was the largest we have had, a total of thirty-eight students, from eight



States and Alaska, attending the two sessions. We are particularly fortunate in being able to rebuild the carriage shed at Cook's Canyon to provide a well-equipped workshop, through the generosity of Miss Grace I. Dickinson, of Worcester. The Sanctuary Advisory Committee is also making plans for the building of a badly needed dining hall, and for a new entrance to add to the attractiveness and usefulness of the property.

As for SANCTUARIES, you will get a complete picture of what each sanctuary has to offer and its distinctive features from the reports which the superintendents and committee members will bring this afternoon. However, there should be mentioned at this time the acquisition during the past year of Pleasant Valley Sanctuary at Lenox, which was transferred to the Massachusetts Audubon Society by the Association which had founded the sanctuary and operated it over the years, a full report of which transaction was published in our June *Bulletin*.

President Walcott has announced the acquisition by purchase of two thousand acres of the Proctor Estate in Topsfield. A portion of this sanctuary will be known as the Annie H. Brown Reservation, replacing our Plum Island property, which several years ago became part of the Parker River Wildlife Refuge. We hope that members and friends of the Society will be interested in this acquisition to the extent of providing the financial assistance needed to operate the new sanctuary as an educational center for the North Shore, with a resident superintendent, on the same basis as we operate four of our other sanctuaries. The first contribution of one hundred dollars toward such operation has already been received, and one thousand dollars is pledged by another member.

In addition to the publication of the BULLETIN and the RECORDS OF NEW ENGLAND BIRDS, four reprints from the 1950 *Bulletin* are of special interest, namely, "A Guide to Bird-Watching in Massachusetts"; "Berkshire Birds"; Pleasant Valley Sanctuary"; and "Hunting with a Camera." Arcadia Sanctuary is soon to have a special illustrated brochure descriptive of that property, which will be a gift of the Allen Bird Club of Springfield. One way in which members can be of material help in connection with our publications is to secure for us, or suggest to us, advertising for the *Bulletin*. The more advertising we have of the type we now carry to help cover the expense of publication, the larger the magazine we shall be able to provide for you.

This past year Henry M. Parker, of Cambridge, replaced William Cottrell as an editor of the *Records of New England Birds*, and to both we are greatly indebted for their contributions to this publication.

New activities during the year included the EVENING GROSBEAK EXPEDITION into Canada in July, undertaken by Davis H. Crompton and Robert L. Grayce. We also staged in May an interesting EXHIBIT OF BIRD CARVINGS by Charles Greenough Chase.

The "TALES OF THE WILDWOOD" Series for children has been extended to include ten towns and cities, and the AUDUBON NATURE THEATER continues in Boston, Worcester, and Northampton.

The Society had an interesting exhibit at the BOSTON FLOWER SHOW in March which attracted much attention, and which we hope to repeat in 1951.

A full report of the FINANCES of the Society will be published in the March *Bulletin*, as usual, but it is fitting to mention here that our budget of income and expenses, as indicated by the Treasurer's Report, now exceeds \$100,000 a year, and we operated during the fiscal year ending October 31 at

a deficit figure very close to the amount set up in advance by the Budget-Finance Committee. Our budget this year is also planned on a deficit basis, it being the feeling of our Board of Directors that we should use our funds to best advantage when the need is greatest, and we believe that the need was never greater for conservation of natural resources than it is today.

This report indicates a most active Society program. Activity, however, is not an end in itself. It simply means that, with our sanctuaries and other facilities, a most co-operative and interested Board of Directors, a capable staff, and the loyal support of you, our members, we are carrying on an urgently needed program for CONSERVATION here in Massachusetts. We appreciate the many gifts that have been received during the past year, not only of funds for sanctuary and educational work, but of materials of value to us, such as books for our libraries and mounted birds and bird skins for our study collections — not to mention a live Porcupine which has become a real pet of the many children visiting our Moose Hill Sanctuary this season.

Our heartfelt thanks to one and all for the generous help given throughout the year that is past, and may we look forward confidently to even greater achievements as we work together in the year that is before us.

## Birds Have Individuality

BY CAMPBELL BOSSON

To the bird-lover who has not arrived at the high dignity of a bird-bander, the recognition of an individual bird is in itself quite a thrill, multiplied many times if our acquaintance plays a part in some incident or exhibits some unusual characteristics.

We scatter bird food outside our breakfast nook. There is a feeder, a "chickadee diner," and a cemented flagstone space, all roofed over, and we also scatter seed among lilac bushes just beyond. From the breakfast table we have a close look at the birds which come within ten feet of us to feed.

During the very severe winter of 1947-48, we had a Brown Thrasher as a guest. Early in February someone had the inspiration that a vegetable diet was not enough for Timmy. We hung out the remains of a leg of lamb, and Timmy, who had been noticeably drooping, stood on it, precariously picking off bits of fat and meat. When the easily found morsels had been consumed, he whacked at the gristle and little cracks with all the vigor of a woodpecker going after a borer. Towards the end of February Timmy spent the nights huddled in a corner between the house and the chimney, from which he flushed reluctantly when the door was opened to put out food. Despite his protein diet, and advice from the Audubon Society, he became considerably weaker. On March 1, froth appeared around his nostrils, he was listless and would not eat, and we never saw him again.

Timmy had no marks which would distinguish him from any other Brown Thrasher, but Scarface could not be mistaken for any other Chickadee. Some accident or enemy had caused a patch in his black cap to be bald. We first noticed him early in October, 1948, and he was a regular visitor at our feeding station for many months, taking a sunflower seed in his bill to a perch where he cracked it open by whacking the edge with his bill until it gave way, then eating the kernel. Usually, though not always, he was one of a group of three who would fly to the shelf turn by turn. Another group of three came at



times, occasionally when the Scarface group was there, but I never noticed that there was any hostility between the two groups other than the normal trouble — no Chickadee wanted another at the shelf while he was there. On one or two very snowy days they were hungry enough to tolerate one another, but usually the later arrival, diving down, would drive the earlier bird off. Scarface and his pals vanished, presumably to find nesting accommodations more to their liking than our well-cared-for lawn and shrubs and those of our neighbors afforded, but to my pleasure Scarface reappeared on June 25. He was alone, and his neck as well as his cap looked pecked and bedraggled, but he worked hard on his sunflower diet, and the lovely *phoebe* song was heard—although I cannot prove that it was Scarface who sang it.

Scarface was again our guest through the winter of 1949-50, did the usual vanishing act in the spring, and reappeared in July with another Chickadee which had a similar, but smaller, scar on his crown. We saw Little Scarface several times; both disappeared for most of the autumn, but after the weather turned cold Scarface evidently found feeding in the woods poor picking and now is back at our restaurant. Little Scarface has not reappeared.

Then we had Charley and Tillie. They are two of the six Blue Jays who cleared the sunflower seeds out of the shelf before the squirrels got there (usually, anyway). At short range, a Blue Jay is not just another Blue Jay; the white wing bars and the spots on the primaries and tails vary considerably in pattern and size, and I came to identify Charles the Bold. Charles was not to be frightened away after what I thought was his share of the seeds by a wave of my napkin. He stayed until he had what *he* considered his share, probably as much as his crop would hold, then departed at his leisure. His wing bars were somewhat broader and straighter than the others. Tillie the Timid, however, with a very narrow wing bar, would leave at the first motion inside the window. After March, the Blue Jays also become less common, and the wing bars and other markings less certain.

Now we have a bird which looks like Tillie but acts like Charley. Is it a case of molting changing the appearance, or has Tillie or some other bird acquired confidence while Charley has left for greener pastures, forests, or feeding shelves?

How many of us have had a chance to watch the Blue Jays at such close range that we realize that the two little black vertical lines from the "eyebrows" across the forehead give him a very cross expression? No, I never could see that any Jay looked more or less cross than the next one.

Our most interesting individual is One Leg. (Won't one of your readers suggest a better name?) One Leg is a Song Sparrow with a left leg but no sign of a right leg. He first came to us early in July, 1949, when he and another Song Sparrow came for their regular morning meal. One Leg was an aggressive fellow. He would go for any English Sparrow who tried to poach, and for a long time he bluffed them out, but towards the end of July they defied him — they did not fight back but took a defensive attitude, with spread wings, when he dashed at them, so he decided to "eat and let eat." On the ground, he bends his one leg much more than a normal bird, his belly almost drags on the ground and his center of gravity is lower. I have seen him perching on a twig or a wire, also with leg much bent, and his body so close to the perch that it seemed buried in his belly feathers. I do not think that he feels at home off the ground, and I suspect that he only tries to perch on windless days. Sometimes I think his toes are spread more than a normal bird's — cer-

tainly more so than the Blue Jays, who keep their three front toes almost together — but I am not positive that he differs from other Song Sparrows in this respect.

All through July of 1949 One Leg and his mate fed with us, but one morning at the end of the month there was a young Cowbird on the flagstones, fluttering his wings, whimpering and begging as only a hungry young bird can do. Two Leg could barely reach up high enough to put a seed in its mouth, but she kept busy and fed him, although she never did fill him to his satisfaction. One Leg stood a few feet off and watched the feeding, but did nothing about it. The next morning, the trio reappeared. This time, when Two Leg was about to feed the Cowbird, One Leg made a dash at her and drove her off, leaving the Cowbird fluttering and whimpering more than ever. The third morning, the two Song Sparrows were there — no Cowbird — but one young Song Sparrow was fed very solicitously by both. I saw the Cowbird two or three days later on the lawn, well and husky and foraging for himself, but that was the end of One Leg for that summer.

Imagine my surprise and pleasure when, in 1950, One Leg reappeared. Another Song Sparrow was with him, and they appeared pretty regularly until June 1. Then neither was seen until One Leg reappeared, alone, June 23. We heard a song in the early morning, unmistakably a Song Sparrow song, and though not as long and rich as a typical song, this may have been his; but if he had another mate he did not persuade her to come to the feeding station. I suspect that One Leg and his first mate raised a brood, took them off without my seeing them, and that Two Leg met with some accident. So far as I know, One Leg did not raise a second brood. How a bird which has difficulty in perching has survived in an area as full of cats as ours is quite a mystery, but when we left in late July One Leg was still healthy.

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### Bird Articles, Inexpensive but Valuable!

We have at Audubon House reprints of several of the more important articles published from time to time in the Audubon *Bulletin* still available free, or at a small charge to cover postage, handling, etc.

BERKSHIRE BIRDS, by Bartlett Hendricks. Sixty pages, maps and drawings, stiff covers, almost indispensable for western Massachusetts, only *Sixty Cents*.

A GUIDE TO BIRD-WATCHING IN MASSACHUSETTS, by John B. May. Twenty-eight pages, sectional maps, a key to habitats and best birding areas, *Twenty-five Cents*.

PLEASANT VALLEY SANCTUARY. Twenty-four pages, twelve half tones, two maps, check-list of birds, *Ten Cents*.

The following reprints are Five Cents each: *A Wildlife Sanctuary for Everyone; Whose Track is That?; Massachusetts Alcids; Massachusetts Rails; White-winged Gulls; Provide Your Birds a Nesting Place*, with scale drawings; *Birds are Found Round the World — On Postage Stamps*.

The following reprints are for free distribution: *Hunting with a Camera; Build Bird Populations with Food Plants* (from *Arnoldia*); *Invite Your Bird Neighbors to Dinner; Fifty Years of Conservation in Massachusetts*.

Copies of these reprints may be obtained at Audubon House or from the superintendents at any of our sanctuaries.

## Do "Dumb Animals" Reason?

BY ESMOND S. RICE

Every once in a while we have evidence of the apparent reasoning powers and intelligence of wild creatures. It was my fortune to witness an example of this recently in my back yard, which is nicely suited for bird-watching. To attract the birds, after various attempts to outwit the Gray Squirrels, I finally worked out a successful feeding arrangement as follows:

From an upstairs back window of my home I have attached a sagging wire which reaches some thirty feet to the top of an eight-foot cedar post. This post has been wrapped with a four-foot section of sheet zinc, to prevent its being climbed by cats, squirrels, etc. From the wire, at intervals, hang a horizontal bird diner containing raisins and peanut butter, two wicker baskets containing sunflower and wild bird seeds, a wire suet basket, and a heavy cotton string about a foot long with a doughnut tied at the end of it.

This assortment of viands has appealed to various finches, to Catbirds, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, Blue Jays, Red-winged Blackbirds, Chickadees, Nuthatches, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Starlings, and others. The Red-wings in particular seem to appreciate the varied diet, but, like the other birds, when attempting to sample the doughnut they would have trouble. They would try to stand on the swinging object, clutching the string with one foot, wings fluttering, and peck away as it swayed back and forth, with meager results because of their being off balance and their insecure perch.

One morning I was amazed to see a Red-wing standing on the wire directly over the doughnut, lowering its head as far as it could, taking the string in its beak, lifting the doughnut by raising its head, and, as the string came up, holding it to the wire with its toes. After a few hitches in this manner the entire string was pulled up. Then with the doughnut at its feet, securely against the wire, it proceeded to peck away vigorously, eating its fill in comfort. I saw the same trick performed a number of times afterwards, although occasionally when part way up the bird's toes would lose their grip and the doughnut would fall back, resulting in the same routine again until successful.

*Editor's Note.* Many years ago William L. Finley lectured on Oregon wildlife before the Massachusetts Audubon Society and showed most entertaining movies of Western Chipmunks running out along a horizontal wire (or cord) and pulling up peanuts which had been suspended by lengths of string below the wire. Parrots and monkeys may do such tricks in captivity, but it seems most noteworthy that a bird like the Red-wing should perform such a feat.

### The January Field Trip

Sixty-two of our members and their friends, in two busses and in private cars, took part in our annual midwinter field trip on January 28, following the Annual Meeting of the Society on the centennial anniversary of Audubon's death. The weather was favorable, clear and cold, and the trip covered both the Newburyport and the Cape Ann areas.

Thirty-seven species were listed for the day. Both the Iceland and the Kumlien's Gull were seen, and also two European Black-headed Gulls. Several Purple Sandpipers and both the Brunnich's and Atlantic Murres, as well as a Black Guillemot, were observed. A Snowy Owl flew over the heads of the group and provided an excellent view for all of this interesting northern visitor, a species which has not been common this winter.

## *Puffinus puffinus*

By J. H. LUDWIG, JR.

*Photograph by the Author*



Manx Shearwater picked up at Martha's Vineyard, September 4, 1950.

Our vacationtime on the island was almost spent. We'd become attached to our little "South Cottage" and the scenic beauty of Martha's Vineyard. Exhilarating surf bathing, good fishing, crabbing, quahogging, and a nightly canasta tournament, plus excellent birding, pushed our departure date unpleasantly close. With but four days remaining, we didn't expect to find anything equal to our flock of nine Golden Plovers seen the previous year on the Island in early September. Our Island bird-list numbered seventy-four.

On September 3, a young married couple from the State of Washington and my wife and I planned to spend the night on the beach and to cook our Sunday morning breakfast there. We both had Nash cars with the built-in-bed feature, a boon to birders. We checked with the Edgartown Police, so we would not be routed out during the night and asked many and embarrassing questions. Driving past the Ocean Club with its Saturday night crowds, we bore left on a sandy road. A Short-eared Owl, disturbed by our approaching car, was flushed from the sand dune on the right and flew through our headlight beam. It was probably one of the Short-ears we had observed numerous times hunting by day near this same South Beach area. Our cars came to rest with nothing between us and the breakers but forty feet of rather steep beach, which made us feel safe from the tide. The moon shone dimly through an ever-changing veil of fog, giving the dunes and ocean a mystic glow. With our car screens in place, we were ready to be lulled into a peaceful sleep by the sounding waves.

Sunday morning dawned misty, bright, and hot, and while our wives made breakfast Jack and I took an early morning dip. En route to our cars from this swim, we came upon a luckless feathered creature lying dead at our feet. My experience with ocean birds is meager. However, my wife and I agreed that we were viewing a shearwater of some description. Care-

fully we studied it, so that with R. T. Peterson's help we might make a positive identification. We judged it must have been dead at least several days, for our close-up study required that we stand on the windward side. After a breakfast de luxe, and before we left, I tossed it by one pink webbed foot upon a near-by sand dune.

A consultation that afternoon with our "Field Guide" left us dissatisfied. The description of the Audubon's Shearwater best fitted our bird. However, the size of the bird, we remembered, was considerably greater than the stated twelve inches; and this bird had pink feet. Early Monday morning found us atop the sand dune tenderly wrapping our puzzle in a newspaper shroud for more careful examination. With all the reference books at our disposal, we were still stumped.

Neither Allan Keniston nor his copy of the *Birds of Massachusetts* could help us, but his pet Herring Gull made our visit memorable, anyway. Our next appeal among the island's noted ornithologists was to Guy Emerson. When he, too, failed to make a positive identification, we eagerly followed his advice to take photographs of the bird, as our prize was now beyond the point where it could be skinned. Miss Harriet C. Larrabee, a member of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, took kodachromes; skillfully assisted in decapitating the bird (with the kitchen scissors); and thereafter left no stone unturned to determine the true identity of our shearwater.

Miss Larrabee first wrote to C. Russell Mason, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, and followed up her letter with the two kodachrome slides as soon as they had been developed and returned. From Mr. Mason we learned that the Audubon's Shearwater had been recorded only four times in Massachusetts, all records being from the Martha's Vineyard-Nantucket region.

We knew now that this was a rare find for Massachusetts, but we were still in doubt as to whether it was an Audubon's Shearwater or some other, even rarer, species. On September 19, 1950, Mr. Mason really thrilled us when he wrote that he had spoken to James L. Peters, of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, and would send him the kodachrome photos that he might check to be sure the bird was an Audubon's Shearwater and not some Mediterranean species. Mr. Peters indicated, after viewing the slides, that he thought this bird must be a Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*) and suggested that we send the material and the skull on to Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy, Lamont Curator of Birds at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, and author of *Oceanic Birds of South America*.

In a letter to Miss Larrabee, Dr. Murphy wrote, "I have finally had occasion to compare the skull from Martha's Vineyard with our skins and skeletons of the Manx Shearwater and related species. The bird is unquestionably *Puffinus puffinus*. The subspecies is not certainly determinable. I make this comment because it is quite possible that the form of the Manx Shearwater inhabiting Bermuda is not of the same race as the typical form inhabiting the British Isles. There are at least some slight indications that the Bermuda bird more closely resembles the Mediterranean subspecies. Unfortunately, we know very little about the form that once lived in Bermuda in large numbers because the population has become nearly, if not quite, extinct.



"At any rate, this specimen is a Manx Shearwater, and it closely matches an example in our collection found in approximately the same condition on Fire Island Beach, Long Island, New York, on August 30, 1917. Your bird is dated September 3rd, and it is rather interesting that these two waifs which may constitute the only North American Continental records were taken on our Atlantic Coast, at the same time of year."

The skull has been presented to the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard at the suggestion of C. Russell Mason.

I was surprised to find that in *A Field Guide to the Birds*, R. T. Peterson has listed a Manx Shearwater in Appendix I, where he mentions that accidentals are the rarest of rarities — those birds that should not occur in a particular region at all and are found seldom in the lifetime of most birders. Occasionally someone finds a rare bird — as in our case a Manx Shearwater — from a distant land which eventually is identified and reaches a museum. We feel that this has been our find of a lifetime, but, like all ardent ornithologists, we hope it won't be our last.

## Half A Grapefruit

BY EDWIN A. MASON

*Photograph by Margery and Hinsdale Smith*



From one of our members we learned of a new quirk in bird-feeding which was demonstrated by Mrs. James R. Balsely, Conservation Chairman of the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut. Mrs. Balsely's idea was to attach the rind of half an orange, filled with bird seed, to a Christmas wreath along with the usual decorations of red berries. The bright orange of the fruit rind was a decorative touch,

while at the same time a Christmas treat was provided for the birds.

One of our members who lives in Suffield, Connecticut, Mrs. Hinsdale Smith, Jr., carried the idea a step farther. She thought that if an orange rind was good on the Christmas wreath, grapefruit rinds attached to the branches of evergreen trees around her home would be bigger and better.

Here is how she did it. First the core and septa were removed (of course the juicy pulp had already been eaten), then four slashes were made in the rind, about an inch from the center of the rind, through which she pushed diagonally two eight-inch-long "Twistems" to form a cross. ("Twistems" are ordinarily used for tying plants to stakes. String or soft wire can be used instead, although not quite as good.) The grapefruit rind was then filled with Moose Hill Bird Food, or a reasonable substitute, and, when available, hot drippings or melted suet poured over the seed. When the fat had solidified, the feeder was ready to be installed.

Mrs. Smith finds pines, spruces, and hemlocks ideal for the purpose of attaching these grapefruit-rind feeders, and of course these conifers make ex-

cellent cover for the birds, especially in bad weather. The bright color of the rind shows up attractively against the deep green needles and also seems to attract the birds — at least they find the food quickly. These feeders usually last about two weeks, sometimes being refilled with seed in the meantime. Occasionally the birds keep on going when the seed is exhausted, nibbling holes right through the rind.

Here, then, is a simple way to brighten up the winter landscape with cheery color, while bringing the birds within range of your window. Besides, it is a project well within the scope of children's activities. How about it, youngsters? Why not get to work on some of those discarded grapefruit rinds right after breakfast, and do an outdoor "good turn" for your cheery but ever-hungry bird neighbors?

## "So Much for So Little"

### Can We Reach Our Goal This Year?

In an enthusiastic appeal made at the Annual Meeting of the Society in January by Membership Chairman E. C. Johnson, he urged all members to co-operate wholeheartedly during this Audubon Centenary year to help the Society reach its desired membership goal of 10,000. Mr. Johnson, recent president of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, knows organizations well and what they have to offer, and it is his settled opinion that the Massachusetts Audubon Society is without a peer in the return in pleasure and profit it offers its members for the modest cost of an Active Membership. "So Much for So Little" is his insistent plea. And we believe that when this slogan actually catches fire — we can do it!

A recent addition to the State-wide Membership Committee is Lester R. Marland, of Ware, who has already interested a number of his neighbors and friends in joining the Society.

We welcome the following new members this month, numbering over one hundred and including friends from several States outside of Massachusetts. We continue to be encouraged also by the fine response of older members in increasing their support.

#### Life Member

\*\*Crane, Robert, Pittsfield

#### Contributing Members

\*\*Alexander, Donald C., Nahant

\*\*Bergstrom, Mr. and Mrs. E. Alexander,  
West Hartford, Conn.

\*\*Freeman, Miss Ethel Hale, West Newton

#### Supporting Members

Calkins, Mr. and Mrs. Grosvenor,  
Newton

\*Clark, Robert M., Florence

Clifford, Mrs. Edward L., Worcester

Crone, Miss Katharine S., Belmont

\*Drury, Mrs. Margaret T., Littleton

Fox, Mrs. John B., Arlington

Gould, Mrs. E. W., Jr., Osterville

\*Harrower, Mrs. Norman, Fitchburg

Nash, Chauncey C., Boston

Palamountain, Philip R., Brookfield

\*Puffer, Mrs. Irvin M., Bedford

\*Valentine, Mrs. J. Alden, South Walpole

Wallace, James, Boston

White, Henry D., Wellesley Hills

Wolman, Mrs. Cecil Clark, Cambridge

\*Zentgraf, Mrs. L. P., Lexington

#### Active Members

Abell, Mrs. Walter P., Wollaston

Ames, Mrs. Harry, South Sudbury

Aponas, Miss Anna, Pueblo, Col.

Bailey, Mrs. Roy P., Barrington, R. I.

Barnes, Miss Christine, Wellesley

Beacon Co., Northampton

Beckwith, Mrs. A. M., South Sudbury

Benjamin, Robert S., Wellesley Hills

Bourne, William N., Jr., Cambridge

\*Transferred from Active Membership

\*\*Transferred from Supporting Membership



- Bowen, Mrs. Robert, Wayland  
 Bragg, Mrs. Hazel G., Hyde Park  
 Brothwell, Mrs. Charles R., Wellesley Hills  
 Burrill, Frederick R., West Medford  
 Burrill, Mrs. Helen M., Waltham  
 Butcher, Miss Elizabeth, Brookline  
 Cabot, Mrs. Charles R., Newtonville  
 Carey, W. Peter, Swampscott  
 Cheverie, Mrs. John, Hyde Park  
 Chu, Capt. M. H., Boston  
 Corbett, John F. J., Jr., Jamaica Plain  
 Dakin, Winthrop S., Amherst  
 Deming, Grove C., East Northfield  
 Dias, Miss Audre, Newton Highlands  
 Dinsmore, Mrs. Ralph L., Framingham  
 Dow, Mrs. George L., Cambridge  
 Dyer, Mrs. E. F., Cambridge  
 Eastman, Whitney H., Minneapolis, Minn.  
 Framingham Library, Framingham  
 Fraser, Mrs. John D., New London, Conn.  
 Gasbarro, Mrs. Guido, Hyde Park  
 Gifford, Donald S., Nantucket  
 Goodhue, Mrs. William, Winchester  
 Guba, Mrs. E. F., Waltham  
 Hackley, Mrs. Ada, Mattapan  
 Halter, Mrs. Robert E., Glenmont, N. Y.  
 Harrington Henry Warren, Milton  
 Hartford, Newton K., Buzzards Bay  
 Hartford, Mrs. Newton K., Buzzards Bay  
 Hatch, Mrs. Aylmer N., Wollaston  
 Hetherston, Mrs. Victor M., Cambridge  
 Hill, Mrs. Richard, Maynard  
 Holmes, Thomas, Foxboro  
 Hopkins, Mrs. Charles, Barrington, R. I.  
 Howland, Mrs. Arthur V., Sudbury  
 Howorth, Mrs. Carlton L., Wollaston  
 Hudson, Norman, Wareham  
 Hull, Mrs. George M., Barrington, R. I.  
 Johnson, Mrs. Virginia, Hyde Park  
 Kebler, George F., Mattapan  
 King, Mrs. Elsa, Cambridge  
 Laubenstein, William J., Hingham  
 Lawson, Mrs. Clara M., Boston  
 Lincoln School, Framingham  
 Lucas, Mrs. Clara, Wareham  
 MacGilvra, Ralph A., Boston  
 Memorial Jr. High School, Framingham  
 Michelmore, Miss Margery J., Foxboro  
 Mordecai, Leonard, Boston  
 Morey, Mrs. Eleanor, West Wareham  
 Newell, Mrs. Howard W., Lexington  
 Niccolls, Francis A., North Randolph  
 Nilson, Mrs. Raymond E., Framingham  
 Noyes, Mrs. Walter, Newbury  
 Patterson, Mrs. F. Gordon, Boston  
 Perkins, Mrs. Mary Louise, Foxboro  
 Phillips, Miss Helen E., Boston  
 Pierce, Talbot, West Wareham  
 Rand, Mrs. Henry L., Boston  
 Rice, Michael T., Alexandria, Va.  
 Robbins, Ralph W., Leominster  
 Romaine, Lawrence B., Middleboro  
 Sammond, Mrs. Charles H., Wollaston  
 Sanger, Mrs. Edward J., II, Stow  
 Sharpe, Miss Agnes M., Worcester  
 Sister Janet Margaret, Roxbury  
 Smith, Mrs. Melbourne L., Northboro  
 Spillane, Mrs. George H., Billerica  
 Sprague, Mrs. Charles, Wellesley  
 Steadman, Mrs. Arthur N., Barrington, R. I.  
 Sutcliffe, Mrs. J. William, Barrington, R. I.  
 Thatcher, W. Eugene, East Orange, N. J.  
 Tufts, Nathan, Greenfield  
 Vann, Mrs. Francis H., Wollaston  
 Wadsworth, Mrs. Charles Y., Wayland  
 Watson, Edward B., Jr., Concord  
 Watt, Mrs. William C., Chappaqua, N. Y.  
 Webster, George H., Belmont  
 Weir, A. B., Boston  
 Weller, Wallace, West Wareham  
 West, Mrs. G. H., Winchester  
 Weston, Francis M., Pensacola, Fla.  
 Wheeler, Miss Mary Phelps, Murrells Inlet, S. C.  
 Whigham, Mrs. Andrew L., Century, Fla.  
 White, Miss Helen L., Newtonville  
 Whitman, Rev. R. S. S., Lenox  
 Winchester Boy Scouts, Winchester  
 Winchester Girl Scouts, Winchester  
 Winchester Home for Aged People, Winchester

### A Real Contribution to Our Cause

Many of those who purchase from the Society the interesting stationery — both writing paper and post cards — which enclose a card giving credit to Mrs. Herbert E. Carnes, will be interested to know that, although Mrs. Carnes was responsible for originating and developing this idea of spreading good news about bird life, not one penny of profit goes to her from the sales. This is one of her contributions to conservation work. Not only do many organizations have an opportunity to sell this stationery at a small profit, but it places in the hands of numbers of individuals, even those only mildly interested in birds, the fine work of some of the best natural history artists in the country. We take pleasure in making grateful acknowledgment of this fine service to Betty Carnes, president of the New Jersey Audubon Society, and one of our own very active members.

**Report of the Auditors**  
**MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at October 31, 1950**

**ASSETS**

Cash in banks and on hand .....		\$ 2,477
Accounts receivable .....		3,298
Inventories of merchandise — at cost .....		12,647
Expenditures applicable to future periods .....		2,257
Investments:		
Securities — at cost (aggregate at published market quotations \$403,162) .....	\$334,605	
Other investments — at cost (with no published quotations) .....	302	
Savings bank deposits .....	9,301	344,208
		<u>\$364,887</u>
Sanctuary fund assets:		
Bird sanctuaries — at nominal amounts where donated, plus expenditures by the Society:		
Moose Hill .....	\$17,660	
Arcadia .....	3,753	
Six other sanctuaries .....	6	21,419
Savings bank deposit .....	15,653	37,072
Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston .....		<u>17,537</u>
		<u>\$ 54,609</u>

**LIABILITIES AND FUNDS**

Employees' taxes withheld .....		\$ 579
Funds for special purposes (Schedule I) .....		5,692
Legacies and memorial funds (Schedule II):		
Principal and income unrestricted (reduced by deficits from operations) .....	\$299,852	
Principal restricted, income unrestricted .....	24,624	
Principal and income restricted .....	40,000	
	364,476	
Deduct losses on investments:		
January 1, 1939 to October 31, 1949 .....	\$28,957	
Losses during year ended October 31, 1950 .....	5,901	34,858
Reserve fund (Schedule III) .....		<u>28,998</u>
		<u>\$364,887</u>
Sanctuary funds (Schedule IV) .....		37,072
Audubon House building fund .....		<u>17,537</u>
		<u>\$ 54,609</u>

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

Year Ended October 31, 1950

## Income:

Interest and dividends received, after deducting \$2,224 apportioned to Cook's Canyon .....		\$ 17,759
Dues received:		
Active members, including \$1,000 from Berkshire Museum .....	\$13,281	
Contributing members .....	2,060	
Supporting members .....	3,928	19,269
Unrestricted donations .....		4,918
Fees and donations for educational work .....		37,186
Donations for current expenses of sanctuaries .....		3,766
Funds for special purposes used in the year (Schedule I) ....		5,468
Other income:		
Profit on merchandise sales .....	16,795	
Lecture course and miscellaneous .....	267	17,062
Total income .....		105,428

## Expenses (note):

## Administrative and general:

Salaries and wages .....	31,870	
Office maintenance and expenses .....	9,965	
Travel .....	1,605	
Insurance .....	599	
Building repairs .....	516	
Advertising .....	353	
Accounting and auditing .....	650	
Annual meeting .....	198	
Other .....	494	46,250

Teachers' salaries and other educational expenses .....	43,798
Bulletins .....	8,395

## Salaries and other operating expenses of sanctuaries:

Arcadia .....	6,810	
Moose Hill .....	5,219	
Cook's Canyon .....	4,139	
Pleasant Valley .....	393	
Nahant Thicket .....	237	
Printing and mailing costs of sanctuary appeal .....	358	17,156

Exhibit at Flower Show .....	464
Records of New England Birds .....	264

Total expenses .....	116,327
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Excess of expenses over income for the year, charged against Annie H. Brown legacy (unrestricted—see Schedule II) .....	\$ 10,899
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Note—Operating expenses are recorded in the accounts as they are paid. At October 31, 1950 the amount of unpaid expenses was not significant.

## SCHEDULE I — CHANGES IN FUNDS FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

Year Ended October 31, 1950

	Unexpended Balances		Unexpended Balances	
	Oct. 31, 1949	Receipts	Expenditures	Oct. 31, 1950
Elizabeth Loring Lending Library Fund	\$ 19	\$ 31	\$ 26	\$ 24
Cook's Canyon	344	4,512 (note)	4,139	717
Katharine Woods Memorial Fund	79		79	
Nahant Thicket — for initial expenses	820		237	583
Smith Club Room Fund	68		1	67
Bradley W. Palmer Fund		2,679	986	1,693
Restricted funds of Pleasant Valley Sanctuary		2,608		2,608
	<u>\$1,330</u>	<u>\$9,830</u>	<u>\$5,468</u>	<u>\$5,692</u>

Note — Included in receipts for Cook's Canyon is \$2,224 of interest and dividend income.

## SCHEDULE II — CHANGES IN LEGACIES AND MEMORIAL FUNDS

Year Ended October 31, 1950

## Principal and income unrestricted:

Balance November 1, 1949 .....	\$279,591
Amount transferred from sanctuary funds to Annie H. Brown legacy (see Schedule IV) .....	800

## Legacies received during the year:

Mary G. Morrison .....	\$ 500	
Caroline Clark Barney .....	100	
Mary J. Sitgreaves .....	696	
Elizabeth R. Vaughn .....	10,000	
Margaret E. Cogswell .....	50	
Mrs. Forrest M. Jenkins .....	200	11,546

Unrestricted funds of Pleasant Valley Sanctuary ..... 18,814

310,751

Portion of Annie H. Brown legacy appropriated to absorb  
deficit for the year .....

10,899

\$299,852

## Principal restricted, income unrestricted:

Balance November 1, 1949, unchanged during the year ..... \$ 24,624

## Principal and income restricted:

Balance November 1, 1949, unchanged during the year  
(Endowment of Cook's Canyon Sanctuary) ..... \$ 40,000

## SCHEDULE III — CHANGES IN RESERVE FUND

Year Ended October 31, 1950

Balance November 1, 1949 .....	\$27,998
Received from ten new life members .....	1,000
Balance October 31, 1950 .....	<u>\$28,998</u>

## SCHEDULE IV — CHANGES IN SANCTUARY FUNDS

Year Ended October 31, 1950

Balances November 1, 1949 .....	\$36,763
Contribution towards cost of Arcadia Sanctuary, received in cash during the year .....	800
Nominal amount to record acquisition of property of Pleasant Valley Sanctuary .....	1
Interest on savings bank deposit .....	308
	<hr/>
Amount restored to Annie H. Brown legacy (see Schedule II) .....	37,872
	800
	<hr/>
Balances October 31, 1950 .....	<u>\$37,072</u>

**Report of the Auditors**

Auditing Committee,  
Massachusetts Audubon Society,  
Boston, Massachusetts.

We have examined the balance sheet of the Massachusetts Audubon Society as at October 31, 1950, the related statement of income and expenses and schedules of changes in funds for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the aforementioned balance sheet, statement of income and expenses and schedules of changes in funds present fairly the financial position of the Massachusetts Audubon Society at October 31, 1950 and the results of its financial operations for the year then ended.

Boston, Massachusetts  
January 9, 1951

LYBRAND, ROSS BROS. & MONTGOMERY

**"Audubon Day," May 12, 1951**

For many years "Moose Hill Day" has been a red-letter day for bird-watchers in the metropolitan district and eastern Massachusetts. Visitors from far and near (but mostly from "near") have met at our Sharon Sanctuary for a day of pleasant camaraderie and leisurely bird-watching, and this has led to the suggestion that similar "days" be held at our other sanctuaries.

So *reserve May 12* for a visit to one of our chain of reservations. You have your choice, as follows:

MOOSE HILL at Sharon, our oldest sanctuary, Albert W. Bussewitz, superintendent.  
ARCADIA, in the Connecticut Valley at Northampton, Edwin A. Mason,

superintendent.  
COOK'S CANYON at Barre, headquarters for our Summer Workshops,

Leon A. P. Magee, superintendent.  
PLEASANT VALLEY at Lenox, in the glorious Berkshires, Alvah W. Sanborn,

superintendent.  
NAHANT THICKET at Nahant, our smallest sanctuary.

And our newest and largest sanctuary, the PROCTOR ESTATE AND ANNIE H. BROWN RESERVATION in Topsfield, Hamilton, and Wenham, on the winding Ipswich River, Elmer P. Foye, superintendent pro tem.



As this fine picture by Audubon shows, the beautiful Wood Duck normally nests in natural cavities of trees. At our new Proctor Estate Sanctuary and Annie H. Brown Reservation, which include the Wenham Swamp, a stretch of the winding Ipswich River, and an artificial, azalea and rhododendron bordered pond, we plan to erect many man-made homes for Wood Ducks, America's most colorful of waterfowl.



**BYLAWS**  
OF THE  
**MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY**

AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1951

**ARTICLE 1.**

**PURPOSES**

The purposes of the Society are to further the conservation of wild birds and mammals, particularly within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and to foster an intelligent interest in them; to co-operate with other organizations in promoting sound conservation; to maintain sanctuaries and to render assistance in securing the establishment and maintenance of permanent wildlife reservations, and to aid in general the restoration of the balance of nature wherever it has been disturbed.

**ARTICLE 2.**

**CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP**

The Society shall consist of various classes of members paying dues as follows: — Active Member \$3 annually, Supporting Member \$5 annually, Contributing Member \$10 annually, Life Member \$100, Patron \$500.

Any person may join the Society by expressing the approval of its principles and paying the required dues. All such members shall be entitled to all and the same privileges, which shall include the right to vote at all meetings of the Society.

Any members whose dues are in arrears more than one year may at any time be dropped from the Society by a vote of the Board of Directors, who may reinstate any member so dropped upon payment of said dues in full or in part.

**ARTICLE 3.**

**OFFICERS**

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Honorary Vice-Presidents, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Executive Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, ex officio, and not more than 24 other members to be elected by the Society. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person. There may be such other officers, including an Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, as may be elected by the Board of Directors, their terms of office and duties to be prescribed by the Board.

The terms of office of the Directors shall be three years, not more than eight to be elected annually.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors and of such standing committees as he is a member of, and shall have the other customary duties of his office. The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall, in the absence of the President, preside at all meetings of the Society and at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of such standing committees as he is a member of, and shall be in effect the active Vice-President of the Society. The Executive Director shall be paid a salary and shall have charge of the active business of the Society, and general supervision of the work of all other paid officers and other persons employed



by the Society, subject to such votes, rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may pass or make.

#### ARTICLE 4.

##### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall have charge of all the funds and property of the Society, shall conduct the business of the Society, and arrange for all publications and all meetings of the Society, and shall submit annually a printed report upon the work of the Society; and shall cause a copy of the report to be mailed to all members of the Society. They shall elect the President, Honorary Vice-Presidents, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Executive Director, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as they shall deem necessary. Any vacancy in the Board of Directors or in any office caused by death or resignation may be filled by the Board. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Wednesday of each month except the months of July, August and September. Special meetings may be called at any time at the written request of three members of the Board. Eight members shall constitute a quorum. The Board may take action on a majority vote of those members present at any meeting at which a quorum is present.

The Board of Directors may exercise any of their powers through Committees, the members of which shall be Directors, to be appointed by them on nomination of the President or otherwise. There shall be three Standing Committees to be so appointed annually, at the next meeting of the Board following the annual meeting of the Society, as well as other special committees which may be appointed at any time, viz:—

(a) An EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of three or more members, of which the President and Chairman of the Board shall be members *ex officio*, shall, in intervals between meetings of the Board, have charge of the current business of the Society and shall perform such other duties and have such further specific powers as may be assigned to them from time to time by the Board.

(b) A BUDGET-FINANCE COMMITTEE of three or more members, of which the President, the Executive Director, and the Treasurer shall be members *ex officio*, shall recommend to the Board before the beginning of each fiscal year a budget of salaries and expenses based upon probable receipts and expenses to be expected during the coming fiscal year.

(1) This Committee shall have the power and duty to invest and reinvest the funds of the Society. The Committee may appoint, as Financial Agent of the Society, a bank or trust company in Massachusetts, may revoke such appointment and may authorize arrangements to be made with such Financial Agent concerning its duties, powers, compensation and term of service. The Financial Agent, if appointed, and while in office, shall have such duties and powers in connection with the funds and investments of the Society as shall be prescribed by this Committee consistently with the provisions of these Bylaws, provided always that no investments or changes of investment shall be made by the Financial Agent without written approval of a majority of the members of this Committee. The duties and powers of the Financial Agent may include the receipt and custody of funds and securities of the Society and the furnishing of advice as to investments. The members of this Committee shall not be personally responsible for the safekeeping of any funds and securities of the Society while they are in the custody of a Financial Agent selected by the Committee in the exercise of reasonable care. Not-

withstanding anything heretofore in this paragraph (1) contained, this Committee may at any time request the approval of the Board of Directors to matters of general investment policy, and shall be authorized to act in accordance with any approval so given.

(2) The Treasurer, or, in his absence, the President or any other member of this Committee, shall have power, when so authorized by this Committee, to endorse for transfer certificates of stock, bonds and notes belonging to the Society, and to execute and deliver, in the name and behalf of the Society, all other instruments necessary for the transfer thereof, and also to sign checks upon bank balances, and sign withdrawal slips upon any balance in a savings bank.

(c) A SANCTUARY COMMITTEE of three or more members shall have the immediate control of all sanctuaries subject to votes of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE 5.

### AUDITING COMMITTEE

An Auditing Committee of three members of the Society shall be elected at the annual meeting. It shall be the duty of this Committee to examine the accounts of the Treasurer and report to the Board of Directors on or before the second Wednesday of January.

## ARTICLE 6.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors shall, at least thirty days before the annual meeting of the Society, appoint a Nominating Committee of five members of the Society, whose duties shall be to present to the annual meeting nominees for such officers and directors as are to be elected by the Society, and for members of the Auditing Committee. These nominations shall also be reported, at least ten days prior to the annual meeting, to the Secretary and shall be forthwith posted by him in the office of the Society.

## ARTICLE 7.

### ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting shall be held at Boston on the fourth Saturday of January. The business of the meeting shall include the election of not more than eight members of the Board of Directors and the members of the Auditing Committee; also the amendment or alteration of the Bylaws, if proper notice of such amendment or alteration shall have been given as provided in Article 13 hereof. Special meetings of the Society may be called and held at any time by vote of the Board of Directors and shall be called and held, if thirty members so request in writing. A quorum at all meetings shall consist of thirty qualified members of the Society. The Secretary shall give at least ten days notice by mail of all meetings of the Society to all members.

## ARTICLE 8.

### SECRETARY OF THE SOCIETY AND OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Secretary of the Society shall perform the customary duties of such office and shall give notice of, and keep the minutes of, all meetings of the Society.

The Board of Directors shall annually, at the first meeting after the Annual Meeting of the Society, elect a Secretary of the Board, whose duty it shall be to

give notice of all meetings of the Board by mail at least five days in advance of the same, and to keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board. Any vacancy in this office shall be filled by the Board.

#### ARTICLE 9.

##### TREASURER

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds of the Society, only as directed by the Board of Directors, save as herein otherwise expressly authorized. He shall hold and manage, under the control of the Board of Directors or the Budget-Finance Committee, the money, bonds, notes, certificates of stock, deeds and other property belonging to the Society, as more particularly specified in the paragraph relating to the Budget-Finance Committee in Article 4 of these Bylaws. He shall be authorized and empowered, to foreclose any mortgage and execute and deliver the deed for any property so foreclosed and on the payment in full of any debt secured by mortgage to acknowledge satisfaction thereof and to discharge the same. No real estate owned by the Society shall be sold, except upon three-quarters vote of the Board of Directors, notice of such proposed action being inserted in the call of the meeting. The Treasurer shall keep a regular and correct account of all receipts and disbursements and make a detailed report of the same at each annual meeting of the Society and at such other times as may be called for by the Board of Directors. He shall keep a record of and extracts from all wills affecting the Society. He shall give a bond for the faithful performance of his duties in such sum as the Board of Directors may determine.

#### ARTICLE 10.

##### ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Independent associations or clubs which are desirous of aiding in the objects of the Society may be affiliated with it under rules prescribed by the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE 11.

##### NOTICES

It shall be held sufficient compliance with the requirement in any Bylaw that any notice or report be sent by mail, if such notice or report be printed in the Bulletin of the Society and mailed the requisite number of days in advance.

#### ARTICLE 12.

##### THE FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Society shall begin on November 1 of each year and extend through October 31 of the following year.

#### ARTICLE 13.

##### AMENDMENTS

The Bylaws may be amended or altered at any annual or special meeting of the Society by two-thirds vote of all the members present, provided written notice of the proposed change shall have been sent by mail to all members at least ten days previous to said meeting and shall, not less than thirty days previous to said meeting, have been submitted at a meeting of the Board of Directors for its consideration and recommendation to the Society.

## A Sapsucker and Its Associates

By JOHN V. DENNIS



GUY A. BAILEY

### Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at Work.

fore I was able to keep the tree under frequent observation. It was a feeding station not only for a male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, but for five other species as well. How many Myrtle Warblers came I do not know, but never more than one Yellow-throated Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, or Red-bellied Woodpecker came at a time, and I more or less assumed that the same birds were repeating. All had a taste for the sweet sap and, like addicts, came back again and again.

On January 12, 1951, I recorded the number of visits made by each species during a two-hour period in the afternoon. Myrtle Warblers came thirteen times and the Sapsucker came nine times. (I feel sure that only one Sapsucker came to this tree, as I became very familiar with the markings and habits of this bird.) The Yellow-throated Warbler (assuming there was only one) came seven times. An Orange-crowned Warbler came twice, and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet came once.

I was interested to observe that almost no competition existed among the birds coming to feed. The small birds kept at a respectful distance while the Sapsucker was present, which was almost exactly half the time I watched, or one hour. Apparently preferring to eat undisturbed, the Myrtle Warblers and the Yellow-throated Warbler came individually, while the non-feeding birds kept well out of sight. Sometimes the birds came one directly after another to eat, or, again, there were intervals up to five minutes or slightly longer

Whoever heard of a feeding station for birds at the top of a tree? Certainly I hadn't — that is, until a few weeks ago. It seems that a male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker had his own feeding station at the top of a sweet gum tree, *Liquidambar styraciflua*. Drilling rows of neat holes through the bark, he had made available for himself one of the sweetest drinks nature can provide, the intoxicatingly sweet sap of the gum tree. Of the hundreds of holes he had drilled, only a half dozen or so yielded this tantalizing ambrosia. The remaining holes were either dry or filled with a sticky gum which oozed out over the tree trunk. The gum has a taste like coal tar and apparently is not palatable to the Sapsucker.

It is only a step from our cottage on Lake Santa Fe (near Gainesville, Florida) to the gum tree. There-

when birds were absent altogether. Self-assertion occurred only when the Orange-crowned Warbler appeared. This individual was subordinate to Myrtle Warblers and risked being chased when coming to feed. Generally speaking, however, the rule was that each individual could eat as long as it liked and was entitled to complete solitude. The visits of the smaller birds averaged about one minute in duration. The longest visit made by the Sapsucker lasted twenty minutes. Part of the Sapsucker's time was spent in waiting for additional sap to flow.

Several days passed, during which time the pattern of feeding operations remained unchanged. The Red-bellied Woodpecker came as an infrequent visitor to sample the sap with its long tongue. The Orange-crowned Warbler continued to average about one visit an hour, while the Yellow-throated Warbler increased its number of visits to about ten an hour.

On the sixteenth, by way of experiment, I climbed the tree and smeared some peanut butter in dry holes just below a point where the main trunk tapered off in a dead stub. This was about thirty-five feet up. Near by I hung a small cup containing syrup. Within a short time Myrtle Warblers were sampling the peanut butter and the Orange-crowned Warbler took a few sips from the syrup cup. This marked a new phase in feeding activities.

Coinciding with the artificial placement of food was a decrease in the number of visits made by the Sapsucker. I do not believe that my operations disturbed the bird, for, from my observation, Sapsuckers wintering here in Florida do not seem at all suspicious. And they do occasionally come to feeding stations. For example, one was present near the home of Miss Clara Reed, of Brookline, Massachusetts, during an entire winter. The bird came regularly to suet in her yard (*Auk*, 46: 114). Frank Bolles tells of placing cups filled with syrup in trees frequented by Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers near Mount Chocorua in New Hampshire. The Sapsuckers drank from his cups, as did Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. The Hummingbirds, incidentally, frequented clumps of trees where the Sapsuckers had their drillings in order to obtain sap (*Auk*, 8: 256-270). C. S. Marvel published a note in the *Auk* telling of a Cape May Warbler which spent about two weeks (September 23 to October 8) in and around a back yard where it came to feed from holes drilled in a willow tree by a Sapsucker, at Urbana, Illinois (*Auk* 65:599. 1948). This is the only reference to other species of birds, other than Hummingbirds, coming to Sapsucker drillings which I have been able to find.

Whatever the reason may have been for his decreased attendance at the tree, the flow of sap began to dwindle. Perhaps the tree had already been taxed beyond its capacity, or else the drillings required more frequent attention to keep them open and flowing. The chances are that the Sapsucker found a more productive source of sap elsewhere. I occasionally saw him in neighboring gums and live oaks. He seemed to have a regular circuit which he covered many times in the course of a day. Frequently I saw him flying out over an adjacent field. He always headed for the same group of live oaks.



In the meantime, the birds coming to the original sweet gum were being more and more attracted by the food I placed there for them. In addition to syrup, I placed a small container with honey on a near-by limb. As a less messy substitute for peanut butter, I supplied a mixture of shortening, peanut butter, and flour. This combination proved to be ideal for working into small crevices and behind bark. Also, it is just as popular as peanut butter with most birds, if not more so. Finally, to meet the food requirements of as many birds as possible, I nailed an ash tray to a horizontal limb and filled it with small grain (chiefly millet).

Now to see how the birds responded to the changed conditions.

The Orange-crowned Warbler, although it did sample the syrup, soon ceased coming altogether. So did the Ruby-crowned Kinglet. On the other hand, the Yellow-throated Warbler, seeming to like the syrup and the honey just as well as the gum sap, dined on this fare at great length. I marveled at the capacity of this small bird and wondered how it could drink so long from the syrup cup and then fly over to the honey for additional sweets. The Myrtle Warblers weren't attracted by my honey and syrup, but they did come for the shortening mixture. Their attendance, however, dropped from a high of thirteen visits an hour to two or three visits an hour. The Sapsucker, as I have said, virtually stopped coming for awhile but later began to make some drillings in the uppermost portion of the tree, a branch which grew upward ten or more feet above the dead top. He paid absolutely no attention to my feeding devices or the birds coming to them.

The new menu offered at the gum tree began to attract new birds. Cardinals, coming three and four at a time, took possession of the grain in the ash tray and fought over the shortening mixture. Polite manners went by the wayside with their arrival. Males shoved females aside and then fought among themselves. Only birds high in the pecking order enjoyed an undisturbed meal. But even their peace would be disturbed if a Mockingbird were to arrive. For a Mockingbird also discovered the palatability of the shortening mixture and did not wish to share it with either Cardinals or another recent visitor, a Brown Thrasher. All other birds seemed immune from his attack and could feed peacefully even while the Mockingbird was perched near by.

Florida Grackles, resplendent in their purplish plumage, found the grain and the mixture to their liking. The comings and goings of the other birds did not interest them. They simply planted themselves at the feeding spots and ate as long as they pleased. The Mockingbird generally found business elsewhere while these haughty visitors were present.

To complete the list I need only mention Blue Jays, which came to the tree at infrequent intervals. Still busily harvesting acorns, they showed little interest in the feeding station in the treetop.

After three weeks, feeling that the experiment had been very worth while both in the pleasure I had had in watching the birds and in gaining new information about them, I discontinued supplying artificial food. It will now be up to the Sapsucker to satisfy the demand for sweets, a demand which came about as a result of its own peculiar feeding habits.

### The Snowshoe Rabbit

When skiers swarm the northern slopes,  
To zoom and schuss and "ride the ropes,"  
When powder snow is drifted deep,  
And Bear and Woodchuck soundly sleep,  
The Snowshoe Rabbit jumps around  
As nimbly as upon bare ground.  
The Rabbit's feet are big and strong,  
Between its toes the hairs are long;  
And so with "raquettes" on its paws  
The Snowshoe Rabbit has no cause  
To dread the drifting snow so light,  
As it goes hopping round all night.

But this poor Bunny's full of fears;  
With twitching nose and great long ears,  
It stops to listen and mark each sound  
That comes to it from the woods around —  
The bark of a Fox, the snort of a Deer,  
Or the hoot of an Owl in the spruces near.  
For danger hides behind each tree,  
And the timid Hare must be quick to see  
The creeping shape of the sly Red Fox  
As it leaves its den among the rocks  
To hunt beneath the snow-bent boughs  
Where the Snowshoe Rabbits come to browse;  
Or to note the flitting silent wings  
Of the fierce great Owl that hunger brings  
To the starlit woods where the Deermice play  
And the Squirrels have hidden their nuts away,  
And Lynx and Marten and Ermine white  
Lurk in the shadows of the night.

So the Snowshoe Rabbit has a habit  
Of changing clothes — how, no one knows.  
In summer, in a coat of white,  
'Twould show too plainly, day or night,  
And so, to match the old dead leaves  
And shadows moving in the breeze,  
It dresses quite the other way,  
In mottled suit of brown and gray.  
In winter, when the snow is deep,  
And Northern Lights their vigil keep,  
Beneath the spruce trees' shadow blue  
It needs a coat of palest hue,  
And the Rabbit's parka, soft and light,  
Is modeled in the purest white,  
And only its dark and shining eyes  
Will show us where the Rabbit lies,  
Bedded down in a hollow warm,  
Safely hidden from all harm.

JOHN BICHARD MAY



### Notes from Our Sanctuaries

**PLEASANT VALLEY.** In November I wrote about the banded Tree Sparrows that were daily being seen at my feeding stations, and you may recall that up to that time I had not banded any Tree Sparrows this winter. The tantalizing question was, Who had banded these birds? Since that time I have trapped three of these birds and each of them had been banded by me at Pleasant Valley last spring. It is remarkable to think that these birds, which migrated far north — perhaps to Hudson Bay or beyond — to raise their families, have now returned to the very same feeding shelf for a winter vacation. Think of the hazards of such a trip! What powers of navigation! It is experiences like these that make bird-banding such a fascinating study.

On December 3 I had a flock of nine, and perhaps more, Robins in the locust tree in front of the house. Toward sundown on several preceding days I had heard and seen Robins in the spruce plantation off the nature trail. As the winter has been such an open one, Robins have been reported every week or so by different persons in the county.

Actually there has been very little avian activity observed during the last month. A large flock of Slate-colored Juncos around our feeders is something new in my experience here. Usually they are just seen in migration. I guess they didn't see my skis at the front door!!! The Pileated Woodpecker and Barred Owl have been heard two or three times during this period from the mountainside.

During the Christmas vacation Paul and David Green, both of whom have worked here winters before they entered college, came in for a day or two to cut up some of the windfalls caused by the heavy storm at the end of November.

Lack of bird news hasn't meant any shortage of news of interest to Audubon members here. Miss Elizabeth Johnson and Miss Arlia Tomlinson, both teachers on our staff in the Berkshires, have changed or are changing their marital status. On December 26 Miss Johnson married Wendell H. Stickney, formerly of Maine. They are now living in Lenox, and "Liz" is to continue teaching. Miss Tomlinson hasn't taken the fatal step yet but has announced her engagement to Richard H. Bailey, of Pittsfield. "Tommy" also plans to continue with the Audubon staff after her marriage. We are glad to know that these two girls will remain in the Berkshires as permanent residents, and we wish them every happiness.

ALVAH W. SANBORN

**ARCADIA.** At the January 8 meeting of the Allen Bird Club of Springfield, the club voted to turn over to Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary the sum of \$410 which had accumulated over the years in its "Tower Fund." When the administration of Arcadia was taken over by the Massachusetts Audubon Society, it was thought desirable to have a tower which would make a high view over the Marsh possible, for the "Crow's Nest" erected by Mr. Combs was no longer usable. The Allen Bird Club set up a fund to make this proposal an actuality, but as time passed it was found that the cost of such a tower made the accumulation of sufficient money to build one difficult of attainment. The superintendent at Arcadia was asked by the Allen Bird Club to present alternative projects, and his suggestion that the fund be used to make possible the publication of a brochure on Arcadia was favorably received. This booklet has been in preparation for several years. It is designed to answer such

questions as how to reach Arcadia and why the sanctuary was established; to explain what a sanctuary is; to treat briefly the history of the area; to describe the sanctuary's active program in the fields of natural science and conservation education, and in conservation and wildlife management research. The booklet also gives information on the feathered and furred wildlife, and the plant life of the area; it outlines in brief the memorial features of the sanctuary; and it sketches what is hoped will be the sanctuary's program for the future. With publication expected in March, the booklet will be available for distribution to interested persons. It will be priced at fifteen cents, the revenue accruing to make possible, in turn, still another project. At the request of the Allen Bird Club, a supply of these booklets will be made available for the club's exhibit at the Connecticut Valley Spring Flower Show at the Exposition Grounds in West Springfield, March 1 to 6. It is hoped that support for Audubon work in the Valley will be stimulated through the distribution of this booklet.

With the assistance of Davis Crompton, the monthly check-lists of the birds observed at Arcadia during the year 1950 were summarized. These records are on file and will become increasingly valuable as the years pass. It is interesting to note that the lowest number of species recorded was in 1945, our first full year, when the total was 149. The highest number so far was in 1948, when it reached 161. It was 157 in 1949, and 156 in 1950. A project for 1955 will be a summary of the species recorded in Arcadia's first decade under Audubon management.

EDWIN A. MASON

**COOK'S CANYON.** Intermittently throughout January snow covered the ground at the sanctuary, and the first flakes were welcome, heralding, as they did, an increase of birds at the feeders. Conspicuous by their absence were the Evening Grosbeaks, which had come in numbers to the sanctuary in January of 1950. Two lone male Grosbeaks did, however, feed on sunflower seed in the yard of Miss Florence Read, whose home is about a quarter of a mile distant from the sanctuary. This visit on Sunday, January 28, establishes at least one record for the birds for Barre this winter. In general, their place has been taken by the Purple Finches, who have at last found their way from the hemlock grove to our feeders.

One of the nice aspects of Barre is the fact that all along our fringes are neighbors who feed the birds. Their observations assist in keeping track of the bird population of the sanctuary, and at times add new birds to the list. It was thus that we discovered that a flock of over two hundred Snow Buntings was feeding in a plowed field adjacent to our woodland. It was during one of the thaws in January, and there were still patches of snow on the ground which aided in concealing the birds. When they flew it appeared as if dozens of snowflakes had taken to the air. Records of such birds in immediately adjacent land are added to the sanctuary's list, for in such borderline cases it is almost certain that the birds spend part of their time within the sanctuary, and many of them are actually seen coming in at night to take shelter in the protection of our deep coniferous woodland. The alternative of having to have the birds within the legal bounds of the property can at times be amusing, and I am certain all would have enjoyed watching a friend of ours, one bitter day last winter, attempting to drive three Pine Siskins across South Street so that they might be added to the Canyon's bird list. Needless to say, they refused to be accommodating.

A beautiful rosebush over four feet high which grows in Mrs. Cook's garden is believed to be the thornless variety of *Rosa multiflora*. On a single day last year, with an abundance of corn on the ground, Ring-necked Pheasants were observed hopping straight up in the air to seize the rose hips as high as they could reach. This year the Pheasants have ignored it completely, but a flock of twenty-five Cedar Waxwings settled on the bush the middle of the morning of January 29 and by late afternoon had almost entirely stripped it. Although a few berries are still left, the Waxwings have not as yet returned for them.

As part of the Annual Meeting program, an exhibit depicting the type of terrain and activity to be found at Cook's Canyon was on display at Horticultural Hall. The photographic enlargements were made by Leslie A. Campbell, of Ware, a member of the Cook's Canyon Sanctuary Advisory Committee.

LEON A. P. MAGEE

**MOOSE HILL.** Conspicuously absent thus far this winter from the ranks of avian visitors to the sanctuary are the handsome Evening Grosbeaks. This is a condition which appears to be quite general in this section of the State and is in striking contrast to the large influx of last year, when these champing gourmands of the sunflower seeds made their sanctuary debut on December 6 and after the first of the year were regular forenoon patrons at the feeding facilities. Perhaps the frigid and fickle "fronts" that are still to bear down upon us will provide some of the necessary cosmic incentive for a belated invasion of our friends from the far north.

Moose Hill Mourning Doves, holding true to their tradition of many years, are again successfully overwintering in the sanctuary environs. A trim and doughty octette of these birds may be seen daily making frequent and protracted calls about the trays. More than any other bird they seem to remind one during wintry days of the warmer segments in the cycle of seasons. During the course of a year they probably consort with a larger number of birds than any other kind. Purple Finches and Goldfinches appear to be present in numbers roughly comparable to those of last year. Tree Sparrows are relatively few, but their fondness for the proffered mixture is expressed by regular and frequent visits. Occasionally a single Brown Creeper is tempted to break the monotony of his ceaseless spiral search for insect fare by a sally onto a pendent peanut butter stick.

"Beauty," the pet Red-shouldered Hawk, that was recently transferred to Moose Hill from Cook's Canyon Sanctuary, where a wing injury was successfully healed, has acclimated herself to her new territory. As was the case with Superintendent Magee, she has again resumed her peripatetic role of accompanying the Audubon teacher on his classroom rounds. Certainly a better opportunity for stimulating interest and developing an understanding of the important work performed by our predator birds could not easily have presented itself, for when Beauty appears in the classroom clutching the gloved hand of the teacher she displays a dignity and decorum that most effectively captivate the admiration and interest of everyone about.

When "Woody" (a Flying Squirrel in this case) was removed from an obscure niche in a Norwood attic to quarters in the Museum room where his personable self and gliding skill might be displayed to better advantage, he soon proved himself a most congenial ward and center of interest. Consequently, it was deemed more than a slight loss when one day (more accurately

"one night," since Woody always begins his day at night) our flying friend slipped his quarters and disappeared without a trace. A thorough and painstaking search proved of no avail. Hope of recovery was all but abandoned when several days later the large hornet's nest atop the fireplace mantle was casually picked up for closer examination by an interested visitor. Upon turning the nest around to the opening on one side, the beholder was not a little startled and amazed to find the doorway blocked by a bewhiskered face with large and peering eyes — features that were quite quickly identified as those of our missing mammal and which in the same instant restored happiness to the entire household. Next time wanderlust prompts Woody to desert his happy home in the hollow oaken log, we'll fret not but hasten forthwith to rap at the front door of the home of the white-faced hornet.

ALBERT W. BUSSEWITZ

### Brookline Bird Club Trips

#### Open to Members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society

March 3, all day. Newburyport and Vicinity. Mr. Kelly, LYnn 2-9024. Afternoon: Devereux and Marblehead Neck. Mrs. Hildebrand, Marblehead 3993.

March 10, all day. Automobile trip to Westport. Mr. Little, Waltham 5-4295-J.

March 17, all day. Automobile trip to South Shore. Mr. Hansen, ARLington 5-2538-W. Afternoon: Arnold Arboretum. Mr. Bean, JAMAica 4-2049.

March 24, all day. Sudbury — Wayside Inn and Vicinity. Miss Caldwell, Natick 1622-J. Afternoon: Wayland to Water Row. Miss Collins, COMmonwealth 6-5800.

March 31, afternoon. Nahant. Mrs. Hines, CRystal 9-0383.

April 7, all day. Saxonville to Wayland. Mr. Taylor, COpley 7-0067. Afternoon: North Lexington to Bedford. Mr. Marius Robinson, ARLington 5-4074.

### News of Bird Clubs

The first spring field trip of the **HOFFMANN BIRD CLUB**, of Pittsfield, is scheduled for Sunday, April 8, a morning trip to South County for early migrants, under the leadership of S. Waldo Bailey.

The **SOUTH SHORE BIRD CLUB** will conduct an all-day field trip to South Hanson and South Shore on Saturday, March 24, to be led by Robert Atkinson. Trip leaves at 8:00 A. M. from parking space behind Adams Academy, Quincy. On Friday, March 30, Dr. John B. May will present the new color film, "Audubon's America," at the Quincy Library, at 7:45 P. M.

### Change of Date!

AUDUBON'S AMERICA, which was scheduled for presentation at the Boston Public Library in February, is now scheduled for March 15. The film will be shown at that time by C. Russell Mason, Executive Director of the Society, as one of the regular Thursday Evening Meetings, which are held at eight o'clock.

### With The Colors

Allen Morgan, of Wayland, who served in the Marine Corps in the second World War, has been recalled to service as a first lieutenant and will report to a Marine headquarters in North Carolina in early March.

### Correction of Dates

All who are interested in the *Advanced Course in Bird Identification* at Audubon House this spring will please note that classes will be held on the following Wednesday evenings: April 25, May 2, 9, 16, and 23. An error occurred in the listing of these dates in the February Bulletin.

### Don't Miss These Two Great Programs!

The second presentation of the Saturday morning "Tales of the Wildwood" series will be enlivened by the amazing whistled bird impersonations by BERT HARWELL, who brings his CANADA VENTURE to New England Mutual Hall, Boston, on March 17, at 10:30. Through Mr. Harwell's skillful photography, one travels the little-known west coast of Canada and views the splendor of the Canadian Rockies. For all who see this unusual color film the region will take on life and interest because of the abundance of its song birds, game birds, Beaver, Moose, Elk, Buffalo, Mountain Goats, and other wildlife attractions. Here is an action-filled program that combines beauty, travel, and natural science, and will appeal to young and old alike.

Monday evening, March 26, brings DR. ARTHUR A. ALLEN, who will present NORTH TO HUDSON BAY as the closing program in the Audubon Nature Theatre series, also at New England Mutual Hall, Boston. You will be fascinated as Dr. Allen portrays in this magnificent color film our North American migrants in their summer nesting areas along the timberline and tundra in Hudson Bay. Here the eggs are laid and families raised. Nowhere on this continent will one find a greater concentration of interesting shore birds and waterfowl living side by side with little-known land birds of Hudsonian and Arctic species. Harris's Sparrows, Redpolls, Tree Sparrows, and Northern Shrikes nest within a stone's throw of Ptarmigan, Pipits, and Arctic Loons. The air resounds with calls of Wild Geese, Old-squaws, Curlews, Plovers, Sandpipers, and others whose nests we shall so eagerly investigate. Dr. Allen made this film while on a Cornell-National Geographic expedition. His career at Cornell, which has been outstanding, and his expeditions to many parts of the world for the American Museum and the Geographic Society, have earned for him numerous awards as an ornithologist and conservationist. We look forward to his appearance in March with special pleasure.





### Our Educational Service Expands Steadily

On page 115 of this Bulletin is a photograph showing a group of school children intensely interested in a lesson being given by one of our educational staff. Do you realize that we are reaching approximately 10,000 children of school age, in some eighty-five cities and towns of the Commonwealth, with our courses in Natural Science and Conservation?

If the schools in *your* town are not now receiving this valuable service, won't *you* make yourself a Committee of One to investigate the matter and see if the children of your neighborhood cannot enjoy similar advantages with those of so many other Massachusetts communities? It is just one of the many things made possible through the cooperation of the members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

Remember our slogan, "SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE."

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### Our Question Is Answered

In the January *Bulletin*, on page 39, we presented an interesting account of a bird called the "Accravat," but queries at Audubon House and elsewhere gave us no inkling as to the identity of this creature. Since then our research has carried us far afield, and at last we believe we have the proper identification, not only of the "Accravat," but also of the "Semp" and the "Keskadee."

The "Keskadee" was easy, for this name, spelled usually "Kiskadee," is commonly applied to the Derby Flycatcher, *Pitangus sulphuratus*, one subspecies of which reaches the United States in the Rio Grande region of Texas.

But "Semp" and "Accravat" aroused no signs of recognition until we wrote to Dr. William Beebe, of the New York Zoological Society, head of the society's field station at Simla on the island of Trinidad, who answered very promptly as follows:

"SEMP is the Violet Euphonia, *Tanagra v. violacea*. 'ACCRAVAT' is probably what is recorded in the native patois as ARRIVANT, and is applied to the Trinidad Spotted Tanager, *Calospiza chrysophrys trinitatis*."

And now one of the Directors of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, Miss Louisa Hunnewell, has presented to our libraries at Audubon House a small paper-bound booklet entitled *Visitors' Book of Birds, Trinidad and Tobago*, by Fr. Raymund Devas, and among the tanagers listed on page 29 are two Euphonias. We quote:

"The YELLOW-CAPPED EUPHONIA or LOUIS D'OR *à cravat* ( $4\frac{1}{4}$ ") is also very rare, and not known in Tobago. . . . Not unlike it, and fortunately much commoner, is the beautiful VIOLACEOUS EUPHONIA or (more simply!) SEMP. Its back is bright dark blue, its forehead and breast bright yellow, the female being green with pale yellow below."

So the "Accravat" turns out to be the *Louis d'or à cravat*, *Tanagra trinitatis*, and the "Semp" is *Tanagra violacea lichtensteini*, according to Fr. Devas, who differs from Dr. Beebe only in the use of the scientific names of these two birds.

### Thirty-Two Whooping Cranes Now Wintering In Texas

During a number of extensive aerial searches made in December and January over the wintering grounds of the Whooping Crane in Texas, observers counted thirty-two of this nearly extinct species, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Audubon Society reported recently.

The known continental population of one of America's rarest birds consists of four young Whooping Cranes and twenty-eight adults, two of which are captive birds, all located now at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the east coast of Texas. During the 1949 winter season, the count revealed thirty-two adults (including the two captives) and four young.

Service officials are hopeful, however, that the recent counts may not reflect the total number of birds which are in existence on the Texas coast. One of the worst droughts in the history of the area has brought about a change in crane behavior. Formerly the birds could be found in the salt flats and along tidal pools. This year, however, they are also using the low brushy areas of the interior, usually in association with or near the few remaining sources of fresh water.

Under drought conditions, the number of suitable fresh-water areas along that section of the coast is limited, and it is quite possible that they have found the refuge crowded this year and have sought feeding and watering areas elsewhere.

After a transcontinental flight from their unknown breeding grounds in the Far North, the cranes arrive regularly at the Aransas Refuge in late October, usually reaching peak numbers in November and December. Several times in the past a few stragglers have shown up in February — too late to be included in the late-fall and winter count. Additional aerial surveys will be made this year from time to time by refuge personnel in the hope that any itinerant cranes so far not recorded on the refuge area will be located.

The majority of the birds leave the refuge during late March and early April on their northward migration. It is feared that civilization may be forcing them slowly northward to the limits of vegetation. Efforts to prevent the extinction of Whooping Cranes are being jointly sponsored by the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Audubon Society.

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### Audubon Field Trips

**SUNDAY, MARCH 18.** To Westport, for land and water birds and spring migrants. Chartered bus will leave Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston, at 8:15 A. M., returning to Audubon House at 7:00 P. M. Bring lunch. Fare and guide fee, \$3.50. Fee for those using private cars and following bus, 75 cents. Reservations should be made a week in advance. Cancellations cannot be accepted after noon on Friday, March 16. Leaders: C. Russell Mason, Henry M. Parker, and Mrs. Maurice C. Emery.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 29.** To Newburyport and vicinity, for spring migrants. Chartered bus will leave Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston, at 8:15 A. M. (D.S.T.), returning to Audubon House at 7:00 P. M. Bring lunch. Fare and guide fee, \$2.75. Fee for those using private cars and following bus, 75 cents. Reservations should be made a week in advance. Cancellations cannot be accepted after noon on Friday, April 27. Leaders to be announced.

### Data Wanted on Alcids

A letter from Aaron M. Bagg, of Holyoke, informs us that a study of the alcids which were blown inland by the great gale of late November, 1950, is being made by Mr. W. W. H. Gunn, 178 Glenview Ave., Toronto 12, Ontario, Canada. Mr. Gunn would greatly appreciate having any inland records of Brunnich's and Atlantic Murres, Dovekies, Guillemots, and Razor-billed Auks, either seen, collected, or found dead, which may be available. Mr. Bagg adds that he is directing this appeal to members of the Society in the belief that some of them may have very interesting data regarding the above phenomenon, as well as in the hope that they will give such data scientific usefulness by sending the information to Mr. Gunn.

### A New Lecture with Motion Pictures in Color

This superb new picture was presented for its "world premiere" at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Audubon Society on January 27, 1951, the centenary of the death of America's greatest pioneer bird painter, John James Audubon. It is now available at a modest fee for use by organizations of all kinds, wherever a fine program of entertaining and educational color film is desired, and especially garden clubs, summer camps, and church societies.

This hour-long film brings together portraits of many of the most interesting and "photogenic" birds of North America, all in color and many in slow motion, the work of some of our leading bird photographers, all tied together by the thread of Audubon's travels while preparing the paintings for his unsurpassed *Birds of America*.

Audubon's interest in American birds was stimulated when, as an impressionable lad of eighteen, he came from France to this country. At Mill Grove near Philadelphia he studied and sketched such familiar birds as the Robin and Bluebird, the Ruffed Grouse and the brilliant Wood Duck. Moving to Kentucky, he hunted the Wild Turkey and Pinnated Grouse, and painted Cardinals and Mockingbirds. Then, having formulated his plans for publishing his paintings, he traveled to Louisiana, where the bayous, cypress swamps, canebrakes, and mixed forests supplied him with an abundance of spectacular subjects for his brush and pen. A lapse of several years followed while he was in Europe soliciting subscribers, enlisting engravers and colorists, and attending to the many details incident to his great undertaking.

Returning to America, Audubon began a series of excursions for the sole purpose of securing additional material to complete his self-imposed task, that of painting all the birds of America, life-size, and publishing them in his great "elephant folio" edition. He visited the New Jersey coast for water and shore birds, the Pennsylvania "great pine forest" for warblers and other land birds. He followed the eastern coast from Charleston to Key West with its teeming wild life, its pelicans and egrets, and gorgeous Roseate Spoonbills. Then he headed north to New England, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Labrador, painting Eiders and Gannets, alcids and northern finches. And his last great expedition was in 1843, when he traveled up the muddy Missouri River to its junction with the Yellowstone at a time when the prairies were still black with the great herds of Bison. Many of the birds painted on these trips are included in the fourscore bird portraits shown in this outstanding picture.

We confidently recommend "AUDUBON'S AMERICA" to anyone who is interested in birds or in Nature in any of its various manifestations; to all interested in our pioneer days when Audubon traveled by flatboat down the Ohio and the Mississippi; and to all who are interested in the beginnings of conservation and in its application today in this great country, Audubon's and our America.

Rudolph Elie, the well-known critic, wrote in his column "The Roving Eye" in the Boston Herald: "I saw a preview of this extraordinarily beautiful narrative that retraces the footsteps of our most celebrated wild life artist through the forests and fields of America, and was astonished as much by the range of his travels as by the exquisite close-ups and slow motion shots of a great variety of birds. In the hour-long film, which was interestingly narrated by John B. May (who took many of the shots), I spotted many more than 30 different species, including Painted Buntings, Pileated Woodpeckers, Kites, Spoonbills, Tanagers, Cardinals, Black Skimmers and whatnot, all at arm's length range, and scattered from Louisiana to Labrador, New England to the Plains." (There are actually seventy-five species shown.)

Apply at Audubon House for a circular describing this and our other lectures by staff members, with motion pictures in color.

*Audubon's America*  
*From the Bay to the Berkshires*  
*Attracting Birds to the Garden*  
*Wild Flowers of New England*  
*A Bird Sanctuary for Everyone*

*Adventuring with Wildlife*  
*Conservation in Action*  
*With the Waterfowl*  
*Meadow, Marsh, and Woodland*  
*North Along the Labrador*

*Voices of the Woods* (with Kodasides and Recordings)

### Spring Workshops at Audubon House

Again we announce the Spring Workshops for the twofold purpose of supplying general background information in conservation and natural science and offering suggestions for relaying this information in an interesting manner to others. Here is opportunity for those who desire a better understanding of the natural world about us, and those who will be leading youth groups in summer camp, club, church, or on the playground to correlate their projects with the "Audubon Movement."

#### ELEMENTARY WORKSHOP

Tuesday evenings, 7:30-9:00, Background Information and Techniques, ten meetings  
 April 3 through May 15, and field trips equivalent to three meetings

Wednesday mornings, 10:00-11:30

Course A, Background Information in Conservation, five meetings  
 April 4 through April 25, and one field trip

Course B, Useful Techniques for Nature Activities, five meetings  
 May 2 through May 23, and one field trip

#### ADVANCED WORKSHOP

In response to the request for further instruction from participants of former workshops we are offering an advanced course. Previous workshop attendance is not essential for enrollment, but some basic information is desirable.

Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:00, ten meetings

April 5, 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, and field trips equivalent to three more.

Regular meetings will be held at Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston.

Field trips are to be arranged as to date and locality.

Fees are \$5.00 for evening courses, \$2.50 for morning courses.

Please register, preferably in advance, by mail or by telephone (KENmore 6-4895).

## From Our Correspondence

"On December 14 a Bluebird came to my porch and has been here most of the time since. He only eats the asparagus berries which I had placed with evergreens for decoration. During this big snowstorm, December 29, he was here about all day, and the blue coat and red vest were beautiful in contrast with the snow.

"Your slogan 'So much for so little' is absolutely true, for the birds bring me great pleasure the year around."

Miriam E. Keniston  
Plymouth, New Hampshire

"I get no greater pleasure than in watching from our dining room window the birds around the feeders. My wife could probably feed me sawdust at times without my realizing what was taking place, so great is the fascination in watching the squabbles and dominance behavior of the feathered guests outside. And I have found for many years that the birds at the feeders interest our human guests more than anything else we have to offer. The movement of feeding and studying birds is gaining ground fast in parts of the Southeast, as more and more people come to realize its fascination. Maybe sometime we can rival Massachusetts in this respect, and much to our gain in culture. If or when you revisit Florida I hope that you will stop by and watch the birds from our dining room with us. I was much interested to know that you too get rare birds at your feeders. I have had similar experiences, having had a Bullock's Oriole and a wintering Baltimore Oriole appear at my feeders at past times, and have had a few of the scarcer birds (like wintering Orange-crowned Warblers) become regular at times. . . . I am astonished at the magnitude of your bird interest and the scale that you are operating in the interests of bird life and bird fanciers in Massachusetts."

Herbert L. Stoddard

"I think Judge Walcott must be another Grudlo Liscomb to the birds, for they hang around his summer place here on Peach's Point in Marblehead even in the dead of winter, hoping to catch a glimpse of him, or maybe just so they can tell other birds they've been there, as to the Taj Mahal. Anyway, there usually seems to be stuff there when everything is dead elsewhere.

"For instance, on January 8 as I plowed through the fresh snow down through his orchard, I looked up and saw a big black heap topped by a little white heap sitting high up in a tree overlooking Salem Harbor. I gasped and clapped my glass to my popping eyes and beheld a beautiful adult specimen of *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, as pretty a view as you could ever expect, only 100 yards away or so, down-sun, blue sky and sea background, and how his head and great yellow beak and talons gleamed! He was facing the Walcott house, of course, and incidentally me. I stood transfixed for ten minutes, cruelly ignoring my canine companion, who shivered miserably and kept lifting his feet up out of the snow, while His Highness up in the tree sat looking around, teetered forward a few times, then gave a final teeter and opened his wings, banked sharply into the wind, flapped out through the few trees separating him from the beach, and disappeared up-harbor. (I've always marveled at how birds can dart through mazes of branches without ever being lashed by twigs across their eyes, open. And seeing those great sails pass right through without grazing a bud didn't diminish my awe any.)

"Wintering around the edges of a cat-tail swamp just across the road from the Judge's place are at least two each of Robins, Flickers, and Mistle Thrushes, and mixed in with a flock of one hundred or so Tree Sparrows are ten or twelve Song Sparrows and four or five White-throats."

Sue Staub Dixey

### AUDUBON CENTENNIAL STAMPS

Sheets of 24 \$1.00

Published by the National Audubon Society in observance of the centenary of Audubon's death. Proceeds will aid the Conservation-Education program of the National Audubon Society.

Beautiful color reproductions of Audubon Prints.

### MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON CENTENNIAL SEALS

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A drawing of Audubon at work.

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## NEW UNUSUAL SOURCE OF WILD BIRD FEED

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As you may know, pecan nut meat bits have proven for over twenty years to be an exceptionally attractive wild bird feed, especially in cold or inclement weather.

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Pecan meats are rich and a highly concentrated feed. A little goes a long way. Natural fat is 71.2% as compared with sunflower seed, 25% fat. Protein 11%, which is adequate. Carbohydrate 13.3%. Rich in lime and iron and significant amounts of Vitamins A and B. Calories 3633 per pound. Wild birds, with their very high body temperatures, instinctively crave it, especially in cold weather. But they like it at all times! Attractive to more than 40 species — insect eaters as well as seed eaters. For Cardinals, Jays, Woodpeckers and larger birds, order medium coarse *Pecano*. For birds of Goldfinch or Siskin size, order medium fine *Pecano*.

To introduce this product, we offer it on the basis of money refunded if you are not entirely satisfied. Refund guaranteed by the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Price 25¢ per pound, F. O. B. Albany, Georgia. 10, 25, and 50 pound containers. Personal checks acceptable.

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 Massachusetts Committee on Fire Fighting in the Country

**From Our Correspondence, Continued**

"January 22nd brought us a most unexpected visitor—an immature male Sharp-shinned Hawk.

"He came most forcefully to our attention by crashing head on into our big picture window — the window which looks directly out upon our bird-feeding area: suet in French-frier baskets on trees, a ground feeder, a large glass-sided and glass-roofed feeder — all surrounding a small bit of ground where the Juncos and the Tree Sparrows love to feed. Without doubt it was the sight of these small birds that lured the Sharp-shin down in quest of an easy meal.

"My daughter, home for vacation between semesters at Sargent and at B. U. where she is studying Outdoor Education, was sitting by the window when he hit. She did not see him come, but it could not have been a full minute before she had the bird in her hands — even as she picked him up he began to come to and to struggle. In our haste to get him into a cardboard carton I saw nothing of him except his long gray-banded tail, and, never expecting to see a hawk at such close range, could not imagine what manner of bird we had.

"Soon he began to become very active within the confines of his box, and I decided that it would be best to wait for my husband to come home and let him handle the situation!

"It was but a second from the time my husband took the bird from the box that we realized that leather gloves were in order; for sharp claws were dug into his hand. We then identified — with the aid of "Forbush" — a Sharp-shin. He measured exactly 10 inches. We decided that I should call Mr. E. A. Mason at Arcadia in the morning to find out what to do with him, for it would most certainly spoil the

popularity of our feeding station were we to set him free here.

"Mr. Mason suggested that I contact Mr. Edward Norman, of bird-ceramic fame, who would band and set the bird free over the wooded section of Deerfield.


"Meanwhile Sharp-shin was far from enjoying the confines of the wire cage in which we had placed him. He disdained the fresh hamburger we had placed in the cage with him, and by nightfall, when we prepared to take his picture with our 35 mm camera, he was not too perky. So we force-fed him — pushed small bits of hamburger way back into his throat so that eventually he would be forced to swallow, for he refused to do so voluntarily. He received water in much the same manner, and it was astonishing to see him brighten almost immediately. We then took several pictures. The following morning Mr. Norman came and carried him off to be banded and released, thus ending our most interesting and informative birding experience of the winter.

"We are bounded on four sides by woods — mostly deciduous, with a few scattered hemlocks. The feeding area itself has a backdrop of ten small hemlocks — they will be thinned out some day — which provides splendid cover. To date (this winter) we have had nothing unusual — Juncos, Chickadees, Nuthatches, Tree Sparrows, two pairs of Hairy and two pairs of Downy Woodpeckers, one pair of Brown Creepers, and the ever-present Blue Jays. I hear a Flicker, but never see him. I look in vain for Purple Finches — perhaps they will appear before too long.

"The *Bulletin* is eagerly awaited, and the hope that I, too, may some day join in on some of the bird club trips never dies."

Mrs. Willis C. Kurtz

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### From Our Correspondence, Continued

"At different times flocks of Purple Finches, Goldfinches and Cedar Waxwings have covered the shrubs and the smoke-tree in our Wellesley garden to get the berries or leaf buds. And we always have, in the proper season, Bluebirds, Baltimore Orioles, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Wood Thrushes, to mention only a few of our feathered visitors. For several years a pair of Catbirds have built their nest in a shrub near the house.

"One spring the Catbirds built in a hawberry bush under the living room window where we could watch the eggs, then the tiny baby birds until they were grown and ready to leave the nest. We had two cherry trees at that time which furnished food for the birds, and we used to watch the parent birds gathering food for the young. They would pluck a ripe cherry, fly down to the ground under the tree where they picked out the stone, and then fly to the nest on the other side of the house and literally push it down the throat of one of the little birds and repeat the process until all had been fed and satisfied. This was done so often that we really expected them to turn out to be little red cherries instead of little gray Catbirds. . . .

"Several years ago two Phoebe's, after trying to build a nest on the perpendicular wall of the back porch where it would not stick to the smooth stucco, gave up and built it on top of a blind under the overhang. This gave them the protection they desired and evidently it proved satisfactory, for every year since they have returned to the same place and either reconditioned the old nest or built a new one beside the old one. Some years there are two nests on the blind, in which case I take down the older one in the fall so that when spring comes there will be room for a new nest if they do not wish to use the old one. This year they are using the old nest reconditioned.

"I always watch with interest to see the tiny heads of the young birds appear for the first time above the edge of the nest. Two years ago they built a new nest beside the old one. When the youngsters were quite large and about ready to leave for good, evidently the housing situation became critical, for I noticed one day that some of the young birds had moved themselves into the other nest — for more room, I suppose (or to escape the parasites which are often present in Phoebe's nests). But at night they returned to their first home again."

Louise R. Hicks

### When Visiting Audubon House Lunch Next Door at

#### DU BARRY'S

French Cuisine and Chef.  
Garden Service in Summer.  
159 Newbury St., Boston

"I have three wren houses on three posts in my rose garden: No. 1, a perfect wren house from the Audubon Society, modern architecture, newly cleaned, newly painted; No. 2, cottage model, piazza 'n' ev'rything, too cute for words; No. 3, six years old, leaky and shaky but kept up so that all three posts shall have a topping.

"This year Johnny and Jenny Wren choose No. 3, and I laugh and say that they are birds of taste, choosing antiques rather than comfort. Eggs get laid and time passes until a night of high wind. 'Comes the Dawn' and Oh dear! Oh dear! there is No. 3 on the ground, and in it, with tears and moans I find eight little dead wrens, out of their shells a mere matter of hours. I feel it is all my fault for leaving up that shaky old box just because it looked nice. I have practically murdered eight babies! Just as I get myself well worked up, I hear the old familiar song and I look up into the trees and see Johnny and Jenny, just as gay as ever, bubbling all over the place, and if I understand their words correctly the gist of their song is, 'Three cheers, three cheers, there are eight bills we'll never have to meet.' Within an hour they are lugging twigs into No. 1.

"Drat them!"

Priscilla Ordway

### For Sale at AUDUBON HOUSE

#### AUDUBON WALLPAPER

Why not give something to your home that the whole family may enjoy? Use some of the strikingly beautiful wallpaper developed from Audubon prints to make a satisfying room. This paper was made up especially for the Society and is available in two designs. Especially suitable for halls, children's rooms, or as paneling in larger rooms. See how this paper is used in the hallway of Audubon House, at 155 Newbury Street, Boston, and in the Museum at Moose Hill Sanctuary, or we will mail descriptive circular on request. **\$3.00 and \$3.30 per pair of sheets.**

## BEAUTIFUL BIRD PRINTS BY FAMOUS PAINTERS

For Sale at AUDUBON HOUSE, 155 Newbury St., Boston.

**Roger Tory Peterson**  
Baltimore Oriole, Blue Jay, Cardinal, Cedar Waxwing, Hooded Warbler, Mountain Bluebird, Red-wing, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Towhee.

17 x 21 inches  
Unframed .... \$5.00  
Framed ..... \$10.00

The above subjects, also Bluebird and Tern.

22 x 28 inches  
Unframed ..... \$7.50  
Framed ..... \$17.50

Snowy Egret  
Flamingo  
25 x 33 inches  
Unframed ..... \$15.00  
Framed ..... \$25.00



**Athos Menaboni**  
Green-winged Teal, Bobwhite, California Quail, Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser, Bufflehead.

22 x 28 inches  
Unframed .... \$7.50  
Framed ..... \$17.50

**Francis Lee Jaques**  
Blue-winged Teal  
17½ x 22½ inches  
Unframed .... \$7.50  
Framed ..... \$17.50

Green-winged Teal  
22 x 28 inches  
Unframed .... \$7.50  
Framed ..... \$17.50

**Framed Prints of Tropical Hummingbirds and Trogons, by John Gould .... \$7.50**

No discount on pictures. Boxing and shipping extra.

<b>The Living Year</b> ..... \$3.00	<b>Handbook of Attracting Birds</b> ..... 2.75
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<b>Robin Redbreast</b> ..... 4.00	<b>The Life of Audubon</b> ..... 2.50
David Lack.	Clyde Fisher.
<b>A Cup of Sky</b> ..... 2.50	<b>Great Northern?</b> ..... 3.00
Donald Culross Peattie and Noel Peattie	Arthur Ransome.
<b>Water, Land and People</b> ..... 4.00	<b>The Strange Life of Charles Waterton</b> ..... 3.00
Bernard Frank and Anthony Netboy.	Richard Aldington.
<b>Snowshoe Country</b> ..... 3.00	<b>Wildlife Management</b> ..... 4.50
Florence Page Jaques.	Ira N. Gabrielson.

### MOOSE HILL SPECIAL BIRD FOOD MIXTURE

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5 lbs. 10 lbs. 25 lbs. 50 lbs. 100 lbs.  
1.10 2.00 5.00 9.00 17.00

Peanut hearts, 5 lbs. 1.25

Sunflower Seed also available

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### From Our Correspondence Continued

"Persons driving the Atlantic coastal route should know about Pawley's Island, South Carolina, as a spot where a number of interesting birds can be viewed at close range and with great ease. Pawley's Island is a small coastal island, less than two miles long, situated some twenty miles south of Myrtle Beach. Only a few minutes off Route 17, the island is reached by a paved road.

"Birding is best when the tide is low. Without leaving one's car, it is possible to see many aquatic birds in the marshland and inlets between the island and the mainland. Herons and egrets are extremely tame and can be approached within easy photographic range. Clapper Rails can often be seen on mud flats or even ambling across the paved road; that is, when the sun is not too high. Wood Ibis occasionally fly over. A flock of fourteen Hooded Mergansers did not fly when I stopped my car close to where they were feeding.

"Viewing the dense cover of cedar and bayberry which blankets most of the island not occupied by cottages, one is astonished at the number, if not the variety, of small land birds. Cedar Waxwings were also extremely abundant. Flocks, feeding on cedar berries, were scattered the length of the island. One flock, by actual count, contained ninety individuals. Other land species seen: Fish Crow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Robin, Boat-tailed Grackle, Red-wing, Cardinal, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow. During migration and the breeding season the island is an excellent place to see Painted Buntings.

"The ocean and inlets at the northern and southern tips of the island, easily accessible from one's car, also afford good birding. The southward bound traveler may see his first Brown Pelicans here. There is also a fair chance of seeing Oyster-catchers."

John V. Dennis

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<b>Audubon Bird Notes</b> .....	<b>1.00</b>
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### Field Notes

A PILEATED WOODPECKER is not a bird that you see much in eastern Massachusetts, and it is therefore interesting to have word from Mrs. Walter Gropius, of South Lincoln, that she has seen one of these birds off and on throughout the past year — summer as well as winter. She does not find it about her place daily, or even regularly, and wonders whether other observers in that area have seen the Pileated Woodpecker during the past year, and, if so, where, so that some idea may be gained of the territory that this bird may cover.

A RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET was reported in January as coming daily to suet and peanut butter logs supplied by Miss Rachel Bruce, of Fitchburg.

On January 15 E. Stuart Peck, of West Falmouth, wrote that a TOWHEE had been coming to his feeders regularly for two or three weeks. A female Towhee visited the yard of Mrs. Cyril B. Currie in Wakefield on February 4 and was observed by Mrs. Currie five different times.

A flock of thirty-three MOURNING DOVES was observed in Tiverton, R. I., on January 17 by Beverly Ridgely, and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Jameson, of Beverly, report forty Mourning Doves at their feeders on January 30.

Mrs. H. E. Warner, of South Lincoln, reports that a COWBIRD visited her feeder on January 30, and the FOX SPARROW that arrived on January 25 stayed until January 30.

A male DICKCISSEL has been coming to the feeder of Mrs. Mahlon Leonard in Plymouth along with English Sparrows. Mrs. Leonard first noted the bird on December 20, and it was still there December 24, according to Adrian P. Whiting.

On December 22, while birding in Newburyport, Dr. Herman R. Sweet and Dr. Harold Blanchard saw a male LARK BUNTING in fall plumage in a flock of Tree Sparrows. The buff on the wing first attracted their attention, and later, upon checking at the Museum of Comparative Zoology with James L. Peters, they saw a skin that checked with their description. An immature Lark Bunting has appeared at the feeder of Mrs. Walter Noyes in Newburyport and was still there the latter part of January. This could be the same bird that Dr. Sweet and Dr. Blanchard discovered in December.

Word was received the middle of January that a MOCKINGBIRD had been making daily visits to the bird bath of the David C. Fenners, at "The Moors" in Falmouth, and had been identified by Captain W. M. Gifford, of Woods Hole.

### For Sale at AUDUBON HOUSE

#### Bird Houses Ready At Audubon House Get Them Early!

Rustic Wren House B40 .....	\$2.00
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### Field Notes

On February 4, Robert Smart and Robert Paine saw eighteen HOLBOELL'S GREBES and a drake KING EIDER at Manomet Point; twenty-seven BALDPATES, two hundred RED-BACKED SANDPIPERS and fifty SANDERLINGS in Plymouth; and an IPSWICH SPARROW on the dunes at Humarock Beach.

Mrs. Thaxter Anderson reports two KILLDEERS in Marshfield on December 27, and one was seen in South Somerset on January 1 by Mrs. Frank B. Albro and Mrs. Ralph L. Hentershee.

Thirty MEADOWLARKS were seen in Kingston, at the Duxbury-Kingston line, on January 26 by Miss Rosella Ames. Mrs. Lewis H. Babbitt writes from Petersham that four Meadowlarks have been feeding around their house and in the barn, also that they have a SPRING PEEPER that sings lustily every little while.

Dr. John B. May reports seeing a fine adult RED-SHOULDERED HAWK at Duxbury on February 3.

Bartlett Hendricks writes from the Berkshire Museum that Mrs. Harold Olmstead, of Pittsfield, has had a CARDINAL at her home every winter for several years. It was first seen in December, 1947. This winter the Cardinal was first seen in mid-January, and on January 31 two were present all day in the snow.

A flock of fourteen wintering BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERONS was seen in Hingham on January 27 by Monsignor Furlong.

We have had a good many calls at Audubon House from members who are bothered with WOODCHUCKS doing damage to the family garden. In his column in the Worcester Telegram, Haydn S. Pearson, whose writings are well known to Audubon members, recommends that along the side of the garden, next the wall or woods, be planted a long row of lettuce. He says it has worked for him and may for others. The Woodchucks eat the lettuce and leave the rest of the garden alone.

Miss Grace Dana, of Fairhaven, writes that she had two TOWHEES feeding at her place all winter, the same as last year.

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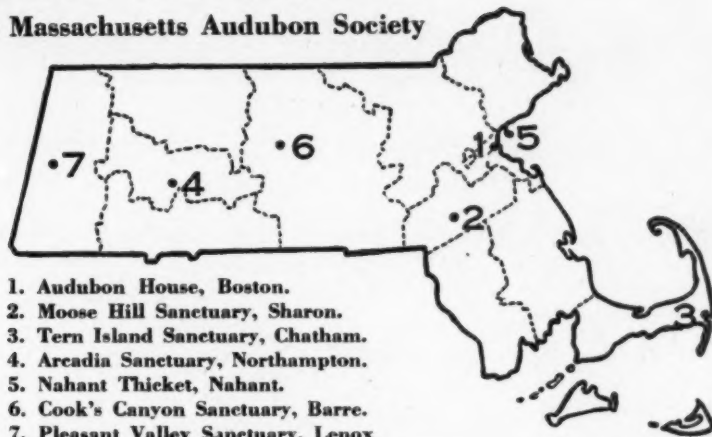
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For the convenience of our members, bird food and other items handled at Audubon's Store may be secured at the Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, and Pleasant Valley Sanctuary, Lenox; Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary Northampton; Moose Hill Sanctuary, Sharon; and Cook's Canyon, Barre.

**Prices subject to change without notice**

## Audubon House and the Sanctuaries of the Massachusetts Audubon Society



1. Audubon House, Boston.
2. Moose Hill Sanctuary, Sharon.
3. Tern Island Sanctuary, Chatham.
4. Arcadia Sanctuary, Northampton.
5. Nahant Thicket, Nahant.
6. Cook's Canyon Sanctuary, Barre.
7. Pleasant Valley Sanctuary, Lenox

## THE BERKSHIRE MUSEUM

Pittsfield, Mass.

The Berkshire Museum, Berkshire County's Public Art, Science, and Local History Museum, was founded by Zenas Crane, 1903.

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The Museum is open free to the public 10 to 5 on week days, 2 to 5 on Sundays. It is closed Mondays.

As the Museum receives no money from the city, county, or state, its services to the public are made possible largely by memberships and gifts. Single (\$5.00 a year) members receive two invitations to the winter and summer Members' Nights, a discount on tickets to lectures and other events, and to courses for which a charge is made. Ten dollars (\$10.00) members have the same privileges for three persons.

In addition, Museum members now automatically become full members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, with all privileges of membership, including THE BULLETIN.

Museum membership and gifts may be deducted from net income subject to Federal Income Tax.

Alvah W. Sanborn, Miss Arlia Tomlinson, and Mrs. Wendell H. Stickney of the Audubon educational staff represent the Berkshire Museum and the Massachusetts Audubon Society in Berkshire County.

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Will you not consider the desirability of making the Massachusetts Audubon Society a legatee under your will, or make such recommendation to your friends?